TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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Poetry.

REMEMBER, BOYS MAKE MEN.

When you see a ragged urchin
Standing wistful in the street,
With torn hat and hoseless trousers,
Dirty face and bare red feet,
Pass not by the child unheeding;
Smile upon him. Mark me, when
He's grown he'll not forget it;
For remember, boys make men.

When the buoyant youthful spirits
Overflow in boyish freak,
Chide your child in gentle accents,
Do not in your anger speak.
You must sow in youthful bosoms
Seeds of tender mercies; then
Plants will grow and bear good fruitage,
When the erring boys are men.

Have you never seen a grandsire,
With his eyes aglow with joy,
Bring to mind some act of kindness—
Something said to him a boy?
Or relate some slight or coldness,
With a brow all clouded, when
He said they were too thoughtless
To remember boys make men.

Let us try to add some pleasures
To the life of every boy;
For each child needs tender interest
In its sorrows and its joys;
Call your boys home by its brightness;
They'll avoid a gloomy den.
And seek for comfort elsewhere—
And remember, boys make men.

For the Blade.

THE DRUNKARD'S KNELL.

BY WM. KNOWLES.

'Tis said to hear the "passing bell"
When infant life is fled,
And the sweet, budding, opening flower
Lies number'd with the dead.

But comfort to the mother's heart
In Christ's own words are given;
She knows her darling, precious babe
Has gone to rest in Heaven.

'Tis said to hear the passing bell
When youth and beauty fall,
And the "sight-fed worm on the damask cheek"
Is holding carnival!

But youth, devoted to the Lord,
In glory shall arise,
And with fresh beauty bloom again,
Transplanted to the skies.

But ah! what sorrow wrings the heart
When tolls the passing bell,
Noting the ruin of a soul,
As rings the drunkard's knell!

Hark! The measur'd notes
Fall from the tolling bells;
The saddest sound that's heard on earth
Is the poor drunkard's knell!
Homer, O.

Our Story Teller.

For the Blade.

CRISS-CROSS.

A STORY OF THE LATE WAR.

BY P. J. K.

"Why, Amy," I said, roused into eager curiosity, "What *could* have been in it?"

I'll tell thee what was in it, Aunty," she said, sadly, "as nearly as I remember, for I destroyed it after a while. He said, that from something that had happened, or had not happened, it didn't matter which, he had come to the conclusion that the subject on which he had spoken in his communication of a certain date, mentioning the date of *that* letter, had best be dropped, that his feelings had undergone a change, "in short, Amy," he said, "I love another."

What more was in it, I cannot tell; that was enough. Those words seemed, as it were, to be burned into my heart. As I lay there, with a half stunned and crushed feeling, mother came up, and laying her hand on my hot head, she kissed me and said, "Poor child!" and I felt her tears falling on my hand, but presently she added: "He is totally unworthy of thee. I would think no more of him."

Ah! how easily said! I thought, as over and over again through that night, those wretched words kept repeating themselves in my brain, till at last, worn out, toward morning, I fell asleep. The next day, Saturday, I spent in bed with a throbbing headache, but on Sunday, though I felt better, I did not feel equal to going to meeting and facing curious glances, for it seemed to me that every one must see that something was amiss with me, though of course, I very much exaggerated my consequence. I dreaded going to school, but felt, after all, thankful for the distraction it gave me from my trouble. So the weary days wore away, and every night when I was alone, I would say to myself, "How can I bear this?" and must it go on so till death comes to relieve me?

Thee sees, Aunty, I was young, and had not yet learned that Time mercifully softens and insensibly wears away the keenness of our sorrows, else we could not bear them.

I smiled a little, for she was not yet twenty-five.

Of course I wrote no more letters to a friend in the army, and equally of course I received no more. Whether it was noticed or not, I did not know, and I think, did not much care, for the trial itself was so great, that even wounded pride was for the most part in abeyance. Not always though, for when I was asked one day how Curt was, by some one who took it for granted I knew, it was hard to put on a smiling face and say, "I had not heard from him *very* recently, the last time I heard I believe he was as well as usual."

So the weary weeks went on, and spring came with its bright promise to all but me, I thought. I heard nothing of Curt for a long while, for I would not ask any one, and in fact, I went out very little, professing to be much absorbed in my school duties. One day one of our old professors called at our house, and after chatting awhile, turning to me he said, "Our friend Curt is making us proud, is he not?"

I looked at him questioningly, and seeing I did not understand, he said, "Oh, has he not told you? but I forgot, he is not one to blow his own trumpet." And he went on to say that Curt, with a small company of picked men, had surprised a rebel encampment, had captured a number of prisoners, how many he did not know, and what was better still, a considerable quantity of ammunition and stores, of which our forces stationed there were very much in need, as they were operating at some distance from their source of supplies, and he further stated that Curt had been promoted, he was now Major Curtis Haynes, of the 12th Tennessee Cavalry, and, that in the engagement which had been brief but sharp, he had been wounded but not seriously, and his informant, one of the young men from the neighborhood who had enlisted at the same time with Curt, said, "it was a wonder he had got off so easily, as he had acted as if perfectly reckless."

To all of which I listened, with what interest thee may imagine, and replied as best I could.

When the professor had gone, I went to my room to think it over. I had thought I was getting if not reconciled, at least a little inured to my change of programme, shall I call it? but now this intelligence broke the wound open afresh, and the resistless tide of memories that flowed over me, swept away all the business of pride and self-respect that I had raised so carefully to keep out his image, and now I knew that I loved him as well as ever, and that I was to fight my battle all over again, if indeed, I was ever to conquer, for sometimes, I argued with myself it was my fate to love him and to suffer, and pride would whisper, "love one who belongs to another?" and my weak heart would answer, "but he loved me first."

So, I struggled on. Spring had gone, and June, leafy June, had come and the woods were gay with wild flowers taking me back to the time when our class went botanizing, and gathered—so much besides flowers. One day toward the last of the month, I saw Curt's cousin Lucy at meeting, and as we were about to separate, she said, "I suppose thee knows Curt is coming home."

"I don't know just when," I said, hypocrite that I was.

"Oh, well, I'll tell thee. He has not been well since he was wounded, and is coming home on furlough, expects to be here at reunion," and some one calling her just then she left me. I stood for some moments trying to realize what she had told him, and then, finding that mother and the rest had gone, I went slowly homeward.

What we called reunion was a meeting of the graduates or ex-pupils every year during vacation at the seminary building, and a few invited friends, with a programme of entertainment, including an oration and poem by graduates chosen the year before, a little speech-making from any of the professors who happened to be present, then a sort of pic nic dinner on the lawn, the afternoon spent in strolling about the grounds, which were quite extensive and very pleasant, and ending in a social evening with refreshments.

The most of those present were usually from the vicinity, but occasionally some who lived some distance off came back, sometimes with a helpmeet, to greet their Alma Mater, and grasp the hands of their school friends once more. These occasions had been very pleasant, and we never missed them if we could help it. And now Curt was to be there for the first time since he left school, and what with his being a general favorite, and with all that had happened since he left, it would be a time of unusual interest, and—must I go? I did not see how I could avoid it, unless I wished to excite comment, and that I certainly did not. And then—did I have a lingering hope that something might happen which would put a new face upon our affairs? I despised myself for the thought, but concluded I must see him in order to strengthen my resolution to forget him!

So by the time I had reached home I had decided to go the reunion.

It wanted yet three weeks of the time, and I resolved to go out more than I had been doing, and see if I could not shake off somewhat my depression, but though I managed to deceive others, I could not deceive myself. I was no nearer the victory than I was the day I received *that* letter. "Little children, keep yourselves from idols." What had I been doing? I desired earnestly to be forgiven, but in the same breath went up a prayer for his safety. A few days before the time for the reunion, I had dismissed school one afternoon and was sitting at my desk reading over an old diary, which I had kept while at the seminary, just for my own eye, and lingering sadly over the old records, in which I am afraid Curt's name figured pretty often, when I heard some one drive up to the door. Hastily shutting the book I rose to look out of the window nearest me, to see who it was, but before I could reach it, I heard footsteps on the porch, and then the door opened and Lucy Miller entered, and behind her was Curt.

I believe that I greeted Lucy with a kiss as usual, and that I received Curt as a young lady might receive a friend whom she had not seen for nearly three eventful years, but what I actually did, or how I actually behaved for those first few moments, I do not know, but Lucy had a great deal of tact, and whether she observed anything or not, I do not know, but she led the way into easy conversational channels, and in a short time I had regained composure outwardly, and was talking with Curt about the war, and the prospects of its close, as earnestly as if that was the one subject in the wide world in which I was interested. So it was, and it seemed a great pity that it had ever had any side issues.

There were chairs on the platform on which my desk stood, and we had seated ourselves there, Curt in my chair at the desk. Presently, when the war talk had subsided somewhat, Curt did not seem much inclined to keep it up, he remarked, "I figured as a pedagogue one summer," and then, taking up the book, he added, "Is this your book of records?" and before I could answer he had opened it. Hastily taking it from him, I said, "No, this is an old account book," and raising the lid, put it in the desk, but my cheeks burned, and I felt as if I had been caught doing something disgraceful. They now rose to go and invited me to ride with them, as they would pass our house. I hesitated a moment but could think of no good excuse for refusing, and actually rode a mile in the same carriage with Curt in the first hour after I had seen him, which was a far different programme of proceedings from what I had arranged as possible.

Mother, through the blinds, saw me getting out at the gate, and saw who was with me, but would not come out, as she said she "feared she could not control herself, and she had best stay in." She scolded me severely for having anything to do with him, and asked "Where was my pride?"

I said I had quite too much to betray to him how badly I felt about his treatment, and further I did not wish his cousin Lucy to suppose there was anything between us, and had tried to act as if he was an ordinary acquaintance, how far I had succeeded, I did not know, but had done the best I could, and, as a logical finish to my explanation, I burst into tears, but I was so wrought up with the excitement and the effort to control myself, that I would do so no longer.

In my little room, "my cologne of vantage," as I called it, for there, at least, nobody could molest me, and I was at liberty to be as miserable as I pleased, I sat down, covered my face with my hands, and thought. I thought first of all how Curt had looked. The three years since we had parted had not gone over him without leaving their mark. He had grown far more manly in appearance, yet his cheeks were sunken, and there were dark lines under his eyes that betokened bodily weakness, or a mind ill at ease, but there was the same old frankness of expression in his pleasant blue eyes, the same fascination of manner that had won my young heart so long ago; intensified, I thought, by the appearance of suffering through which he had evidently passed. His wound must have affected him considerably. He certainly had not appeared like a "gay deceiver," neither did he seem to me like one satisfied with himself. In fact, I could hardly analyze my impressions of him.

Why had he called on me? I was puzzled to understand, but finally concluded that Lucy must have proposed it, and not wishing to excite any wondering on her part, he had consented.

But though I had acted without a trace of resentment toward him in this our first meeting, and did not propose to show any, he should find I was not a plaything to be cast aside or taken up at will. I had given my all of love and trust to him. I had been——mistaken. It might be years before I should recover from the blow, but he should never know what it had cost me. And I felt more sure of myself now, since the shock of the first meeting was over, more determination not to appear in the character of a forsaken maid, more confidence in my ability to carry out my determination. How it was to be done, I did not know, but I trusted to circumstances and the justice of my cause. Whatever was before me, I had done no wrong, and I would not longer be crushed by this misfortune. I would rise above it, and accordingly I bathed my face, smoothed my hair, and went down stairs, where I astonished mother somewhat by my chearfulness at supper and during the evening. I thought she imagined that I had some renewed ground for hope, but no, I was fortifying myself against hope, and the effort gave me courage.

That evening an old friend of mine, an old school beau in fact, called and invited sister Nellie and I to ride with him to the seminary on the day of the reunion, which invitation we accepted, and I gladly, though I knew it was given on Nellie's account; thee knows she was growing up a bright, attractive girl, and he hadn't courage to ask her to go with him alone. Be that as it might, I was suited, for I had gone out so little for some time back, that I feared it would be taken for granted that I would go with Curt, and so have no invitation, in which case I had arranged to have cousin James take sister and me; but this was better.

On the day appointed, he called for us. I had arranged myself with considerable care that day, with an eye to looking like anything but a love-lorn damsel, which, indeed, I was not, for I had too much of what mother called "spunk."

But I must say that I have set out before now on pleasure trips with brighter anticipations than I had then. When we arrived at the seminary a good many were already there, a number from abroad, and there was a pleasant excitement in going about chatting with one and another, renewing old friendships, recalling old times, and feeling generally the nerve and elasticity of youth.

Presently a carriage drove up, and Curt and his cousin Lucy alighted, and were immediately surrounded and almost triumphantly escorted up the walk to the broad poarch, where we were seated or standing awaiting arrivals. It was some time before I had a chance to speak to them, and when I did I was agreeably surprised to find with what coolness I managed it, asking after Curt's health with an ease, I fancy, that would have done credit to a society young lady, while he seemed to be a little embarrassed.

Then the time came for the exercises to begin, and we went into the large schoolroom, and seated ourselves as of old before the desks whereon we had puzzled over many a hard problem, or labored through many a wearisome composition.

The oration, essays, speeches, etc., were unusually interesting, for the occasion was unusual and every one had made extra efforts. Finally, Curt was called upon to contribute some war experiences or ideas on the subject. It was evidently entirely unexpected, for he hesitated a little, then rose, and though a little confused at first, soon warmed up, and for an hour we listened to the ablest exposition of the causes and conduct of the war that I had ever heard, though I had attended a good many political meetings, and from a man, who young though he was had both felt and seen them. It was electrical, we were surprised, delighted, and I remember the feeling of pride with which I realized, what his letters had long forshadowed, his unusual ability. And I remember too, the bitter pang with which our altered relations came before me.

But now it was time for the refreshments. The tables, which had been arranged in the morning by the committee for that purpose, out under the splendid old trees in front of the building, were quickly covered by the ex-pupils, some of them now housekeepers in their own right, with dainties and substantials of their own preparing. We sat at the tables, or in little groups around the lawn discussing the delicacies and the events of the afternoon.

The meal over, some of the matronly ones busied themselves clearing away the remants of provisions, packing the dishes, etc. A few of the young fellows who had fine horses tied conveniently near, invited some of the girls to take a turn with them, and we amused ourselves seeing them show off.

Presently Curt came up—I was standing with some others—and said, "Amy, will you not take a little ride with me? I would like to see some of the old haunts."

What should I do? If I had been alone I think I should have excused myself on some ground or other, but there were others who had heard the request made, and were watching for the reply, and I could think of no excuse quick enough; so in much less time than it takes me to tell thee this, I said: "Yes, I will," and, getting my hat, in a moment we were off.

It was with a curious feeling that I found myself alone with Curt once more, but I had not long to think of it before Curt, his voice somewhat husky, and without turning toward me, began to speak. He said, "Amy, I have a great deal to say to you, and but little time to say it in, and you will excuse me if I am somewhat abrupt," and he continued, "Did you receive a letter from me dated the 18th of February?"

As quickly as I could, with my heart beating like a trip hammer, I answered, "Yes."

"And you thought me a brave youth no doubt," he added.

I could not just then tell him what I had thought, so I kept silent.

"Will you allow me to give you an explanation of it?"

I murmured an assent, for I could not trust myself to speak.

TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.

The Check Was Paid.

H. H. Honore, Col. Fred. Grant's father-in-law, who was very rich before the Chicago fire, lost most of his property thereby, and for a time had difficulty in meeting his ordinary expenses. Having, according to report, overdrawn his account $2,500 at one of the banks, the cashier asked him, toward the close of the year to make it good. The ex-millionaire vowed he could not "give a check on anybody." Said the officer: "We want it mainly for the benefit of the bookkeeper, so that he can balance." "I'll draw on the czar of Russia, if you like," remarked Honore, "though, neither he nor anybody else who is worth anything is indebted to me. "He'll do; it's only for form's sake, you know." The check was shown and happened to go through the regular course of collection. When it reached St. Petersburg it was covered with stamps, endorsements and seals, and was finally presented to the emperor. He declared that he had no recollection of H. H. Honore, but then, as he was an American, he presumed it must be all right, and ordered it paid. The drawee did not hear of this for a year after, and then said that he had no idea his credit was so good in Russia. But the next time he thought he would draw on Julius Cæsar.

Objection to Open-Face Watches.

"I guess, ma," said young Bobby at the breakfast table, "that Mr. Featherly finds it rather expensive calling on Clara." "What do you mean by that, young man?" interposed his sister, with asperity. "I don't mean nothin' by it," replied Bobby, "only I heard him tell you in the hall last night that every time he called on you he broke the crystal of his watch."

Written expressly for the Blade.

THE CONFESSIONS OF A DRUNKARD.

IV.

As an example of what we really were compelled to do to amuse ourselves, the following incident will suffice. Three of us, that is three of the boys, who made up the terror of the village, were sitting in the Huddebacks one evening in May. There was a terrible storm raging outside, a storm of thunder, lightning, wind and rain. There were not enough of us present for cards, and the time hung heavily on our hands. The village in which we lived was situated upon a river that empties into another, the waters of which found their way to the Susquehanna, and thence out into Chesapeake bay and the ocean. Eight miles from us was one of the lovely lakes that dot the interior of New York, and on that lake was a steamboat used for pleasure purposes during the summer. It was too early in the season for the boat to commence its business and she anchored out say a hundred yards from the shore, with her yawl hitched to her with a chain. There was a man in charge of her, but he slept at a house near her dock, and was scarcely ever on board of her nights.

That yawl we had always envied, and many a time we had talked of stealing her, fitting her up and when the water should be high enough make the voyage in her to Baltimore.

The devil so arranged it that the question of the yawl came up that night, and the mere suggestion of her was enough to set us aflame, especially as we were all well primed with whisky.

"Why shouldn't we capture her to night?" said Star White.

"Why not?" was my answer.

"How?" said Jim Thompson.

"Easily enough," I replied. "It is such a devil's night that no one is out. All we have to do is to go past the turnpike gate on foot, get to Abe York's place, get his horses and lumber wagon, go on to Hamport, swim out and get the boat, load it on the wagon and come back with it. It is as easy as winking."

The boys pondered over the situation. There was a turnpike from our village to Hamport, with a gate-house half way, and of course it would never do to awaken the gate-keeper with a boat on a wagon. That was suggested. How to pass the gate with it?

"Easy enough," said I. "All we have to do is to let down the fence 'tother side of the gate, drive into the fields and come out on the road this side. Just go around the gate."

We had just enough of Huddeback's very bad rum in us to be reckless, and it was agreed upon.

It was raining as I never saw it before or since, and the thunder and lightning were appalling. Nevertheless we sallied out into the night, walked four miles, making a detour through the fields to avoid the turn-pike gate, and reached Abe York's farm wet to the skin.

It was an easy time we had at York's. His barn was a long way from his house, and he kept no dog. We made as much noise as we chose, for the incessant thunder drowned any disturbance we could make. We took out his horses, harnessed them, having brought a lantern with us, (which we compelled Huddeback to lend us,) and hitched them to a lumber wagon and drove on to the lake where the boat was.

I swam out to the yawl, untied the rope and paddled it in, we rigged up skids and got it upon the wagon, and drove off.

Before we came to the turnpike gate, we took down a section of the rail fence, and drove through the fields into the woods, unloading the boat, concealing it under brush, and, taking the horse and wagon back to York's, made our way home.

Of course each one of us had a bottle, else we could not have endured the labor and exposure.

But we did, and I got into my room just before daybreak, and slept an hour or two and was up betimes.

The loss of the boat was not noticed for a day or two, for there was no one taking especial care of it. York knew that somebody had been about his stables, for his horses were muddy and showed other signs of having been out, but as they were all right in their stalls, and the wagon back in its place, he wondered and there was an end of it.

The next night was dark, though not stormy, and we borrowed another team, and went into the woods and got our boat, and that night we landed it securely concealed in a cove in the river, covered all over with brush, so that no one could find it.

When the theft was discovered there was a terrible to-do about it, and a heavy reward was offered for the recovery of the boat and the detection of the thieves. The mystery of the use of Abe York's team was solved. The wagon was traced into the woods, by the tracks made in the meadow around the toll-gate, but as we had taken it back out into the hard road, there the trail was lost. It was a mystery what anybody wanted of a boat except upon the lake and why it should have been stolen.

The poor devil of a keeper was discharged for neglect of duty, which, as he had a wife and some half-dozen children depending on him for bread and butter, made it a very serious matter for him, but little we cared for that. We were having our fun.

What to do with the boat was the next question. We had it all safe, and its lying in the river in our control was a perpetual provocation.

What did we do? Why, we went to work and rigged a mast in her, with a sail on it, and we built lockers in her, and waited till the freshet should come. When it came we borrowed of Mr. Adams (without asking him) a rifle and shot-gun, we bought two hams, and boiled them in Huddeback's kitchen, and purchased a quantity of dried beef, crackers and other eatables which would keep, and when the water got high enough we run her out of her hilding place and set sail, we cared not whither. Of course it was down the river, and our ultimate destination was Baltimore. I took with me all my clothes, for I never thought of returning.

Probably we should have reached Baltimore, in time, had not we considered a jug of whisky and another of Rum a necessary part of our stores. The same influence that incited us to the wild exploit was destined to bring it to a sudden conclusion.

The river was full, covering the banks on both sides, and the current was something terrific. We sailed at about six in the morning, and as a matter of course commenced the voyage with a stiff drink all around. The one drink was followed by another, and still another, and we sang mad songs between the drinks, and indulged in loud, profane and vulgar talk, as befits those under this influence. We glided down the river at a terrible rate of speed, but it made no difference to us as the river was as smooth as glass, and there were no obstructions.

It was a delicious sensation. We were as free as birds, no masters to scold or chide, no care, no responsibility. The motion was a delight, the air was like a bath, and we were all kings. What cared we for anything? The stimulant that was in us made us entirely free of the world, and we sang, shouted and hollowed as we glided on like mad beings. That is what we were. There never was so absurd an exploit, never. Whisky was the inciter of the miserable frolic and whisky was carrying it on.

Eighteen miles down the river there is a very considerable fall, which had been utilized as a mill privilege. There is a dam there some twenty feet high, one of the old-fashioned kind, built of logs and stone, with a long apron of planking, over which the water fell, making a beautiful cascade when the river was at an ordinary stage.

Now, however, there was a swift and deep volume of water gliding over the apron, and the river was so full that the fall was only a few inches, in fact, it was almost smooth, and the dam was well-nigh invisible.

There should have been no difficulty in shooting the dam—all that was necessary was to keep the boat head-on, and she would have shot over the apron, taken the fall at its end without trouble, and emerged from the whirlpool below without the slightest danger.

Star White had the rudder and he was, fortunately or unfortunately, too drunk to know or care how he was steering.

As we approached the dam he was heading diagonally across the current. I saw our danger and yelled to him to take care, but my warning induced the trouble I was trying to avoid. Instead of getting the boat straight with the current he gave the rudder a twist that brought her squarely across it, and that when we were in the full control of the irresistible flood.

There could be but one ending to it. Over we went, hams, crackers, shot-gun, rifle, my clothes and boys; over the apron we were shot as from a catapult, and the goods sank into the water, the boat floated off bottom-side up, and the four boys were making their way to shore, as best they could.

Fortunately we could all swim like ducks, and in a very short time were on shore, wet, soaked like rats in a rainstorm, minus caps, coats and everything, and eighteen miles from home.

There was very little talk about it. The involuntary bath had sobered us completely, and we were compelled to keep sober for awhile, for the whisky jugs had kept company with the other property, and were a long way out of our reach.

We turned on our heels by common consent and walked home, through the mud and slush, reaching there at about three in the afternoon.

I don't know what the others did, but I walked boldly to the shop and, taking off my coat, went to work as though nothing had happened. Mr. Adams came up to me and demanded angrily where I had been? I answered brusquely that I had been away, and gave him a look as much as to say, "You dare not question me too closely," which was true, for as I said before I knew too much of him and his ways to be held in too strictly. But that did not satisfy him. He took me into his private office, and looking me squarely in the eye, said:

"I believe you are one of the party that stole the boat from the lake, and that you were off with her this morning."

I looked him just as squarely in the eyes and replied:—

"You are right; I was one of the party that stole the boat, and we did sail in her this morning, and I never intended to come back."

"I ought to give this information to the owners."

"But you won't, though," I replied, with great coolness, "any more than you will do a good many other things that possibly you ought to. We know too much of each other."

That ended it. He knew me too well to make me trouble.

It was a curious thing, but it always happens. Our pleasant vices scourge us. What I knew of Adams's pleasures were sufficient to convert a servant into a master. I controlled him instead of his controlling me, as he should.

That was the end of the boat episode. I lost all my clothes, but I was never arrested for the theft or put to any trouble about it. Suspicion pointed to us, but it was warded off, I knew by whom, and rested securely. Adams would not have had me prosecuted for the world.

It is unnecessary for my purpose to dwell more at length on my career as an apprentice. Suffice it to say that at the age of eighteen I had completed my trade, and was equipped, so far as a practical education went, for the inevitable struggle with life. I was an excellent workman, for I had a quick, active mind, and was splendidly endowed by nature for the business I had chosen. I was a thoroughly good workman, I knew all the branches of the business, theoretically and practically, and had an intelligence outside which should have made me one of the foremost men of the business immediately. Men so thoroughly equipped as I were very scarce, and there was no reason but one, why I should not have mounted at once to the very top.

That one reason was the love for stimulants which was by this time thoroughly fixed upon me, and the habits inseparable therefrom. I was a blackguard, not by instinct but by habit. I had followed Rum, and had acquired all that belonged to it. I had the habits that always accompany Rum, I had the tone that Rum imparts, Rum entered into all my pleasures. I could not exist outside of it.

However, as will be made plain hereafter, I did get on, despite the enemy that had possession of me. I was young, I had a splendid physique, I had that physical power that could resist all the outrages I could put upon myself, and I had the wonderful recuperative power that belongs to such a constitution. I could go to bed drunk at night, and wake up, and shake myself together and actually do my work.

This at twenty. It was quite different afterward. And at that age I could quit drinking for days, and I fooled myself with the horrible self-delusion that I could quit entirely when I chose to do it. Millions of young men keep telling themselves this till they have got their systems into such a state that they are helpless. Then they realize the strength of the appetite, and find where they are. I shall explain this later. Nature is as exact as a square, causes produce results always, and no man can consider himself an exception. No man is stronger than nature, and no man can rise above nature.

I may as well finish up the history of the Adams family right here, not because it is from this time a part of my story, but because it illustrates my subject just as well.

Adams became, at about forty, thoroughly wedded to his dissipations. He drank more and more every day, and played heavier and heavier every night. He got to the point of coming down to his business at 9; a little later, 10 was early for him; and finally he did not put in an appearance at all, for days together. It is the old, old, story. He incapacitated himself for labor, he was only happy when at the card table, sharpers surrounded him, his business left him, and he failed.

This calamity brought him to his senses, and for a time he reformed, or rather tried to. His wife sold the house her father had given her, and on the proceeds of that he went to a neighboring town and started again. But it was of no use. He dropped back to drink and cards, his business went to pieces the second time, and after a few struggles he quit trying entirely, and went into bankruptcy, and became a common loafer.

His wife undertook the last thing a drunkard's wife always does: she started a boarding house, but that was a failure. Adams would squander the money she received, he was disreputable and kept good people out of the house, and the poor woman, heart-broken, was compelled to give that up.

Fortunately for her the wretched husband died one day in the street, and friends started her again, he being out of the way. She succeeded in supporting herself and family for several years, in this way, but finally her strength gave out. Her friends had influence enough to get her a position as matron in an Orphan asylum in the West, where she died.

Her life in that retreat in the asylum was the only pleasant life she ever led. The work was arduous, but she was free from a drunken husband, and her feelings were not outraged by a rum-possessed brute every hour in the day.

* * * * * I want to warn my readers that these papers are not amusing nor will they be. There is nothing amusing about Rum, that is if it is treated as it should be, and the truth is written, told or sung about it. It is all well enough to see an actress wave a glass of wine over her head and sing, tipsily:—

"See how it sparkles
This drink divine,"

But that same actress when her wine is changed to gin, as it always is after a time, and she goes to bed drunk every night, is not so entrancing an object. The drink is divine enough at night, but how is it the next morning? It sparkles at the beginning, but it comes to be the most sodden poison on earth very soon after.

Whoso writes the truth of the stuff will simply repeat stories that are as ghastly as the portals of death. What he writes will be merely a record of disease, madness, cruelty, crime, worthlessness, beggary, murder, and death. If out of these materials, truthfully handled, any one can make humorous, or even pleasant reading, they can do better than I can! There is nothing pleasant in a lunatic asylum or a charnel-house.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

PROFANE SWEARING.

Objections to a Vulgar and Profane Habit.

One of the best articles that we have seen upon profane swearing, coupled with good rules for the breaking of the habit, we find in *Texas Siftings* That generally humorous, and in this instance very sensible, paper says: "This is one of the most vulgar and unpleasant habits of our land, and is nowhere else as flagrantly manifested. In a moral sense it is highly reprehensible. It is wearisome, senseless, and puzzling, since it breaks the chain of words in a sentence intended to convey a connected idea, or a concatenation of thoughts. And although the thoughts of people who have this habit are rarely worth anything, still you would like to have them as little mutilated as possible. We have seen the absurd side of this habit admirably illustrated by substituting some commonplace words for the sacred or obscene ones commonly used. A man is supposed to be describing a trip he has taken to Coney Island, with some one of these ordinary words inserted wherever he uses one of the hack expressions:

"'I went down the *lumbago* dock, and there lay the *pickle, lumbago, sucking pig* steamer, with the old *gingerbread, lumbago* captain walking about the *sucking pig* dock, like a *lumbago hypothenuse, gingerbread, cantarides axiom.* Well, we made a *lumbago* of a jump and grabbed for a couple of *sucking pig* stools, just as they hauled in the *agnostic* gang-plank, and then you bet we had the *gingerbread, lumbago, sucking pig, cantharides, agnostic, pickles, gingerbread* highest old time you ever knew,' etc., etc.

"It is painful to have a whole string of revolting ideas presented by the parrot-like utterances of one of these creatures. A society for the purification of colloquial language we think is now in order."

The President's Double.

Thomas J. Cummins in build is nearly as heavy as Mr Cleveland—or used to be before the President went to Washington. Short-sighted people and strangers very often mistook him for Gov. Cleveland. One day Mr. Cummins sauntered into the chamber for news. This was after the Governor's election to the presidency, and crowds were great. The Governor was in his private office. Mr. Cummins said he would wait. Some Scharie Democrats came in, and in the party were some ladies. "There's the President," said one good-natured ruralist, pointing to Mr. Cummins. Up he went, and, grasping Mr. Cummins by the hand, quickly said: "Glad to see you, Mr. President. Allow me too introduce you to——," and the whole party shook hands before Mr. Cummins could get in one eighth of a word that he was not the President.

Then one of the party rattled off "the hope he would make a good president," "he had voted for him," and that "he would annihilate the Indians." Again Mr. Cummins attempted to explain that he was some other fellow, but one Scharie Democrat capped the climax by asking plumply for a postoffice. This staggered the genial Cummins, and he broke in with: "I'll talk to you about governmental policies, but as for giving out offices, allow me to introduce you to President-elect Cleveland," who just then entered the room. This was the time the whole party of Schoharie people staggered—so much so that the man who wanted the postoffice forgot all about it, and the party left the room as quickly as possible. Mr. Cummins told the incident to Mr. Cleveland. For a moment he was silent. Then he leaned over, and said smilingly: "How would it do for you to stay here daily as my proxy?"—*Albany Argus.*

Simple and Easy.

The tariff, my son? Oh, it's a simple thing, if you'll only give it about five minutes study. There is a great deal of talk made over it, but so there is always much talk about everything. The true principle of protection and free trade, for they must ever go together, is this: Whatever you have to buy should be admitted entirely free of any duty, away down to bottom prices, and whatever you have to sell should be protected away up to 120 in the shade. All men of all parties are agreed to that. "Then why do they wrangle and quarrel so loudly about tariff reform?" Oh, that's another matter.—That is because they are not agreed on what to buy and sell.—*Burdette.*

What They Wear.

The visiting costume worn by Speaker Carlisle's wife is a rich purple velvet, with bonnet to match.

When Sec. Manning's wife is making calls she wears a long, dark velvet cloak of superb quality, which completely envelopes her. It is trimmed with camel's hair in a cashmere shawl pattern.

The daughters of the British minister have visiting suits from Paris exactly alike. They are dark blue, with bonnets and muffs to correspond. The skirts are of silk, striped with red, blue and old gold, and the waists are trimmed with narrow gold passementerie.

Wild Horses Along the Mississippi.

Droves of wild horses are said to be in the Mississippi river bottoms a hundred miles above Memphis. They are supposed to have originated from horses lost by the rebel General Forrest in his campaigns. His command was splendidly mounted on thoroughbreds, and a large number of them escaped into the swamps. There is in that region a large district of uninhabitable country and much fine grazing land. A company is being organized to explore the region and test the truth of the report.

Humor.

The Smart Conductor's Story.

"Yes," said the conductor, "the beats are up to all sorts of rackets to avoid paying their fares. A regular game with some chaps is to pretend they are working on the road as firemen, brakemen, telegraph operators, or something, 'cause they know that a conductor hates to take fare off one of the boys. But they've got to be pretty fly when they beat me, now I can tell you. I'm always willing to carry a man a station or two if he works for the company, but I despise these impostors. Usually I ask 'em something about where they work, and who they work with, and as I am pretty well posted, I catch 'em quite often in that way. Sometimes I ask 'em what train they're going home on, and if they say the 10:30, or the noon train, or anything like that, I know they're no railroad men, and they have to pay or git. The other day I asked a fellow some questions, and he answered them satisfactorily, but still I suspected him. There was something about him that didn't look right. So I says:

"'Can you tell me the time? I'm afraid my watch is a little off.'

"'Certainly,' he says; 'it's now fifteen minutes after eight.'

"'Then it's time for you to pay your fare,' says I, 'or out you go.' And he paid up like a little man. He was no more of a railroader than you are.'"

"How did you find that out?"

"Why, if he'd been a railroad man, he'd have said, 'eight-fifteen,' instead of 'fifteen minutes after eight.' That was a dead give-away."—*Chicago Herald.*

The Boasting Passenger Exposed.

"I'd like to see a man try to bulldoze me," said a boastful passenger on the Baltimore & Ohio. "Why, the other day I was riding on a train up the road here, when a fellow kept the window open, despite the fact that the rest of us were cold. I requested him to put it down, and he said he wouldn't. I made some remark about his not being a gentleman, which he partly overheard, and then he jumped up and said if I had said he was not a gentleman he'd wipe the floor of the car with me. I never like rows, especially with big, vulgar fellows like him, and so I kept my mouth shut. But the more I thought of what the man said the madder I got. And though he was a bigger man than I was, I couldn't contain myself. I got up, went over to the seat and shook my fist under his nose. The big coward took it like a lamb. He never offered to fight me, and if he had I'd a par——"

"Oh, yes," said the train boy you'd-a-paralyzed him, wouldn't you? I thought some one was going to get paralyzed when you did it."

"Then you saw me shake my fist under the big fellow's nose?"

"Yes, but you carefully waited until the train was running through a tunnel before you did it, and I'll bet a dollar to a doughnut that the fellow had no idea that you were in ten feet of him. If he had there'd a-been somebody paralyzed sure enough."—*Chicago Herald.*

Where They Began.

Senator Davis is one of the most popular men, being a self-made man, as the following reminiscence shows: In 1882 a dinner party was given in New York city. Henry G. Davis sat at one end of the table, Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania, sat at the other and General W. T. Sherman at the head. The General began a reminiscence of his life by saying:

"When I was a lieutenant——"

"Come, now, Sherman, interrupted Mr. Davis, "were you ever a lieutenant?"

"Yes, Davis," he replied, "I was a lieutenant about the time you were a brakeman on a freight train."

"Well, boys," observed Cameron, "I don't suppose either of you cut cordwood for a living, as I did."

Mr. Smith Surprised.

Smith—"I never was more surprised in my life than I was last night."

Jones—"Indeed! What was the cause?"

Smith—"As I was passing along the street two ladies came to the door of a house, one evidently the hostess, as she had only a shawl wrapped around her head, the other a visitor. As they reached the bottom of the steps the visitor said: 'Well, I've had a very pleasant time. Good night, Mary;' and the other said: 'Good night, Mehitable,' and so they parted."

Jones—"What, without another word?"

Smith—"Without another word."

Jones—"H'm! I guess they were men in women's clothes."

Very Thoughtful in a Trying Moment.

When the youngster of the household slipped into the hall and saw Adolphus with his arms around Matilda, partaking of a gentle squeeze as a "good night," he simply yelled "Oh!" with a big O.

"What's the matter, Harry?" inquired the mother from an adjoining room.

The question was answered by Matilda, who said: "Oh, it's nothing; Adolphus merely had his arms around me."

"I am surprised at such conduct, Matilda. You should have repressed him."

"Oh, I did, mother," exclaimed Matilda. "I re-pressed him two or three times."

Cheated in Everything.

"I never saw such a man in all my born days!" exclaimed Mrs. Crimsonbeak to her husband, who had been imposed upon in a purchase she had requested him to make for her; "I never knew you yet to get anything without being cheated."

"What, never?" said Crimsonbeak, chestnutically.

"No, never!" emphatically replied Mrs. C——

"Well, I guess you are right. I have always been suspicious of it since the day I was married."

And then he opened the window to see how far he'd have to jump to the ground.

Just the Same.

An Indiana county treasurer, who is $18,000 short, has made a public statement as to where the funds went to. He gave $6,000 to build a wing on an orphan asylum, $3,000 to foreign missions, and helped erect a church with the balance. He had no more sympathy, however, than if he had spent the money in buying futures in wheat, the general opinion being voiced by the chairman of the investigating committee, who said:

"The copper bottomed fool! why didn't he put the whole thing up on pork and try to make something?"—*Wall Street News.*

An Anxious Husband.

Mrs. Judge Peterby is a very spare woman. She is excessively thin. A few days ago her husband said:

"I don't really think that you ought to out on the streets, Maria."

"Why not?" she asked.

"Well, you know there is so much danger just now from mad dogs. They will bite at almost anything."

"But I don't think I am in any more danger than anybody else."

"Oh, yes you are. Dogs love to gnaw bones."

Did She Mean It?

"You've eaten next to noth

Recent Literature.

"One Hundred Years of Temperance" is the title of a handsome volume of 659 pages, just published by the National Temperance Society, New York, which will be found of great value by all who wish to study the growth of temperance sentiment in this country, and the positions taken on this question by the different churches and temperance organizations. About 100 pages at the beginning of the book are devoted to a report of the proceedings of the Centennial Temperance Conference held in Philadelphia in September last. Then follows a history of "The Inception of the Temperance Reformation," by Dr. Dorchester; of "Abstinence During the Century," by H. K. Carroll, LL. D.; of "Prohibitory Legislation," by Dr. Eddy, and of "The Maine Law," by the Hon. Neal Dow, with many other valuable papers too numerous to mention. Prices, $3 and $5.

"The Broken Shaft," a collection of original, highly-flavored tales told in mid-ocean by six passengers of the disabled S. S. Barsaris (Auranis?) contains some of the best representative stories of F. Marion Crawford, R. Louis, Stephenson, F. Auster, W. H. Pollock and William Archer. Mr. "Henry Norman" edits the string of tales, and concludes the book with a strong, well-planned story of his own called "Love and Lightning." There is a predominating element of the supernatural in four of the seven stories: "The Upper Berth," of Crawford, and "Markheim," haunting and bloodcurdling, by Stephenson, who is a master of horrid imagery. The book will surely take hold of the public, for the tales are the best of their kind. It is published by D. Appleton & Co., New York.

The sixth part of Herbert Spencer's enormous work, "The Principles of Sociology," which deals with "Ecclesiastical Institutions," now appears three years after the last part was issued. The eminent philosopher in this volume treats of priests and their powers, the idea underlying their calling is prominently brought out, while the other duties, such as military and political, are also considered. There is a great deal of learning in the volume, and it brings nearly to completion the great work on the philosophy of Spencer. It is to be followed by a volume on "Professional Institutions" and "Industrial Institutions." Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York. Price $1.25.

"Donovan," written by Edward Lyall, is an English novel of unusual character. It is a story of an innately noble but perverse man, struggling against misconceptions and antipathies, who first falls deeply through all degradations, then laboriously climbs high above his original stand. There is enough plot and incident in the book to maintain its position as a novel, but the main purpose of the writer appears to have been to unfold a pertinent moral lesson. All the characters are animated and attractive, and hold the reader's attention to the separate interests of each one for much nearly 300 pages. The book has decided force and color, and presents a fine stirring situations to be worked out in the lives of Donovan, Farrant and his contemporaries. Although marred by extreme regard for detail, and often betraying crudities of style, "Donovan" has enough natural strength of structure to make it an influential and successful story. D. Appleton & Co., New York.

D. Lothrop & Co., Boston, send us "England as seen by an American Banker," being notes of a pedestrian tour made by an intelligent American. It is really one of the best descriptive works of travel we have seen for a long time, and absolutely more satisfying to the reader who wishes for clear knowledge than any book we have perused since Richard Grant White's *England Without and Within*, which is regarded by most Americans as the standard book on the subject. The author has a way of making readers see what he sees; he notes the little traits which make those whom he is among different from those of his own country; he comments shrewdly and curiously upon these differences and the reasons for them; he describes charmingly the scenery of the various districts through which he traveled, the towns he visited, the people he saw and the facts he collected. He very decidedly expresses his opinions on matters which Englishmen have made about themselves, and which American readers have accepted as facts. He tells us, for instance, that English boys are not so strong and vigorous looking as American boys, and that the reason in addition to the contrary has no real foundation.

"Treasure Thoughts" is the titled of a readable little volume, made up of a selection of the choice utterances of Canon Farrar, compiled by Rose Porter, and published by D. Lothrop & Co., Boston. The distinguished preacher has hardly left our shores, and the impression he made upon the public mind, yet free from doubt, is made more enduring by the contents of this volume. The compiler truly says that no words of approval are needed in introducing it to the public. The name alone, will prove a potent entrance plea, claiming interest from readers all the broad land over, so well are Canon Farrar's writings known and prized. It is one of the famous spare "Minute Series" of the publishers, and like the rest of the series is beautifully printed and bound.

"Conspiracy" is a novel whose scenes are laid partly in Cuba and partly in Washington. It treats of Cuban society, of the last insurrection, of the brigandage and plots of to-day, of the details of Spanish supremacy on one side; and on the other of the highest officials in America, the social life of Washington, the machinations of clerks and subordinates, the wheels within wheels of American politics at the capital. It mentions the origin of the Spanish treaty which was rejected in 1884. It was written by a man who has seen intimately the two phases of life that he describes Gen. Badeau was the secretary of Gen. Grant both during and after the war, in the field and at the White House. He was also consul-general at Havana under Pres. Arthur's administration, so that he speaks by authority on these themes. He is known as a literary man, and this work is his last effort. R. Worthington, New York.

Belford, Clarke & Co., 315-321 Wabash avenue, Chicago, send us "The Record of a Ministering Angel," by Mrs. Mary J. Clark, Utica, Ill. All thoughtful persons interested in the great questions of the higher life, of the life to come, and of the ceaseless relations of the living and the dead, will hail the advent of this book. In its pages Mrs. Clark has ventured with free-and-tearless steps into regions as mysterious as they are sacred. She is a firm believer in natural immortality; and more than this, she believes that all true life is a life of loving service. The months of her various characters are filled with the noblest sentiments, and fit, as first to last, to inspire and are an inspiration to that truest of all religions, the religion that is love not in sentiment only but in every action of life.

"The Master of L'Etrange," by Eugene Hall, just published by T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Philadelphia, is a thrilling and absorbing novel in which love, mystery and the supernatural, play important parts. A complicated and exceedingly ingenious plot, gradually developed in the most skilful manner, leads the reader on from page to page with interest that increases with every fresh stage of the fascinating romance. Such is the flood of excitement, that it is impossible to put the book down, and the novel sweeps on from commencement to conclusion with numberless incidents of an extremely startling nature, abounding in the unexpected and the new. The scene is laid in this country, but that does not prevent the introduction of a castle, and a haunted one at that. It is one of the most powerful and vivid romances ever written.

"The Shop Girls of Paris," just published by T. B. Peterson & Bros., Philadelphia, is the striking title of Emile Zola's last and greatest work of French fiction. It will certainly take a front rank among the masters of romances of this or any other age. Zola has never given to the world anything like it, and its entire novelty in subject, scope and style vastly augments its undeniable charm. The heroine is a young and beautiful shop girl or sales lady in a huge Paris dry goods store, and her varied experience is the pivot upon which the entire fascinating narrative turns. Contrary to Zola's usual method of procedure, he paints her a model of innocence and purity. Of course, she has her temptations, and fearful ones they are, too, but her natural inclinations and thorough goodness enable her to pass through them as spotless as the driven snow. She receives her reward at last in happiness, wealth and social position.

We have received from the *Financier* company, New York, a most valuable pamphlet, containing a full and clear account of the New York and London clearing-house systems, with statistics which every banker ought to have. The pamphlet contains a fine engraving of Mr. W. S. Camp, the well-known manager of the New York clearing house.

From Ginn, Heath & Co., Boston, comes a little pamphlet which is worth much to those who are endeavoring to mark out a course of reading in English and American history. It is entitled, Supplement to "Reader's Guide to English History," by William Francis Allen, A. M. and it gives a list of many books that are valuable adjuncts to those generally pursued in such a course of reading. We can cordially recommend to the BLADE family.

Harper's Magazine for February has a fine frontispiece representing the famous sea battle of Trafalgar, which was fought October 21, 1805, with which the name of Lord Nelson is forever associated. It is followed by an interesting article on "The British Navy," by Sir Edward Reed, illustrated with engravings of the Victory, the Glatton, and several other English war ships. The third act of Goldsmith's "She Stoops to Conquer" is concluded in this number. James Lane Allen contributes an article on "The Blue Grass Region of Kentucky," which is fully illustrated. Olive Thorne Miller describes those curious animals which she calls "Living Balls," because they possess the happy power of rolling themselves up into a complete sphere. Charles Dudley Warner writes on "Education as a Factor in Prison Reform," in which he praises the system of the Elmira Reformatory and makes some general remarks on the effectual way of charging the character of a criminal by persistent enforcement of good educative methods, which are well worth attention. The serial story, "East Angels," by Constance Fenimore Woolson, is continued and "Indian Summer," by W. D. Howells, is concluded in this number. New York.

The scientists of America certainly are quite on a par with those of other countries. *Science* is a distinctively American scientific weekly, differing from many in not being filled exclusively with the work of foreign writers. In the pages of *Science* one finds the views of our own scientific men. *Science* Co., 743 Broadway, New York.

Wide Awake, Boston, for February is a good number which opens with a little story. "The Dumb Betty Lamp," by Henry Bacon, the artist, who is a native of Marblehead, and the frontispiece, "Floyd Ireson's Ride" illustrates it and was sent from his Paris studio. Frank T. Merrill contributes a good descriptive article "Through the Heart of Paris," with twenty illustrations by the author. The number contains two very readable historical stories. "A Revolutionary Turn Coat," which gives an account of the hardships endured by Southern soldiers in the war for American independence, and "Mistress Margery's Pin Money," by E. S. Brooks, an incident of the times of Sir Thomas Moore and "bluff King Hal." "In a Mica Mine" is a good story of an adventure by John Willis Hays, with an illustration by Henry Sandham. There is an abundance of miscellaneous matter to amuse and interest the younger readers.

For many years the selections from foreign magazines have been so judiciously made for *Littell's Living Age* that an intelligent American reader through this periodical has been able to get a fair idea of the leading political, literary and social life of the Old World. Littell & Co., Boston.

From R. A. Snaifield, 12 Bible House, New York, the BLADE has received the following new music: "My Darling, Must You Leave Me?" words by the author of "Silver Threads Among the Gold," music by H. P. Danks; "Little Ah Sid" (the Chinese kid), by J. F. Skelly; and "Mikado Waltz," by Coote, which is an arrangement of the most taking airs from Gilbert and Sullivan's latest opera, containing the gems of the opera. All are excellent. Only 40 cents each.

The February number of *Demorest's Magazine* is very readable. "A Quaint Old City," is quite interesting, and "A Year in Los Angeles," and "Peter the Great" are good articles. Mrs. Hart's serial "That Other Person," is continued, and the shorter tales are unusually well told. "From Pencil to Brush" is an admirable feature of this magazine. Jennie June furnishes a paper on the origin of "Sorosis," and the art department is made attractive by a fine oil picture, "Love's Postman," and a photogravure from a painting by Aubert, and fifty other illustrations.

The Magazine of Art for February is an excellent number. Several of the articles are full of interest. Especially is that true of "Buckingham Palace," which is illustrated by four engravings; "The Romance of Art," "A Faith Healing Academician" and "More About Art in Assyria," with four illustrations. Many will enjoy "Tables and Table Customs," which has seven engravings for illustrations. This magazine is published by Cassell and Company, New York, at $3.50 a year.

The January number of *Art and Decoration* is more than usually full of pretty suggestions in the many different branches of art work. The article upon "Coming Decorative Styles," will give some valuable hints to workers upon interior decorations. There are also ideas in regard to clocks, jewelry, etc. "Cabinet Work" is fully up to the times, and gives many novel suggestions. The "Woman's Department" is excellent, and will be found of great assistance in making the decorations of a home. The illustrations are profuse and tasteful. Published by Art and Decoration company, New York, at $2.50 a year.

The February number of *Cassell's Family Magazine* presents an attractive table of contents. "A Wilful Young Woman" is continued and grows in interest. "Lyndon of High Cliffe" is also carried forward, bringing the characters more and more *en rapport* with the reader. Then there are "Three Somebodies," "London for Londoners," "Ailments One Gets Little Pity For," "Above the Mountain Mist," and a number of others. There is also a very pretty song, words by R. Wilton, and music by F. Piel. Published by Cassel & Co., N. Y., at $1.50 a year.

Good Housekeeping has already won for itself such a reputation for excellence that it seems almost needless to say that the number for January 21 is well worth reading for the hints and suggestions which it contains for housekeepers, and in fact for all women. It is full of common sense in its treatment of all subjects pertaining to every-day life. The second installment of the prize essay, "How to Eat, Drink and Sleep as a Christain Should," is given; the sixth of "Domestic Sanitary Appliances," and the ninth of "Ten Dollars Enough," any of them worth the price of the magazine. There is much other good reading. Clark W. Bryan & Co., Holyoke, Mass. $2.50 a year, fortnightly.

The *Turf, Field and Farm*, published at 39 and 41 Park Row, New York, is a paper that no American gentleman with a taste for sports can afford to do without. It grows steadily in circulation and influence. Each year has added to its reputation, because it has been faithful to principle and earnest and aggressive from first to last. It has fought many battles for the right, and it has scored numbered triumphs. It actually re-created the literature of sport and breeding in America. It has aimed to be accurate rather than sensational, and it has shed a flood of light on many important subjects. The discussions which have been carried on in its columns on breeding, development, physical culture, marksmanship, and kindred topics, have attracted the attention of the country and the world. It commenced the new year vigorously, and its sterling qualities insure it an ever-widening circle of readers.

The *Keynote* for January 16 is an exceptionally fine number of this excellent musical, artistic and dramatic journal. It is a weekly publication, and is the best periodical devoted to those specialties which reaches the BLADE. 38 East Fourteenth street, New York.

Good Food in Bananas.

A pound of bananas, it is said, contains more nutriment than three pounds of meat or many pounds of potatoes, while as a food it is, in every sense, superior to the best wheaten bread. Although it grows spontaneous throughout the tropics, when cultivated its yield is prodigious, for an acre of ground planted with bananas will return as much food material as thirty-three acres of wheat, or over one hundred acres of potatoes. It is not generally understood by New Yorkers that bananas fried, baked, or roasted are very appetizing, and that sliced and placed in a dish, with alternate slices of oranges, they make a most delicious dessert.

Those who take Dr. Jones' Red Clover Tonic never have dyspepsia, costiveness, bad breath, piles, pimples, ague and malaria, poor appetite, low spirits, headache or kidney troubles. Price 50 cents.

Miscellany.

"DON'TS" FOR WIVES.

Matters in Which They Should Consider Their Liege Lords.

Don't mend his hosiery with coarse cotton having knots in it larger than a pea.

Don't trade off all his old clothes for a pair of china dogs and then tell him about it.

Don't put the morning paper at the bottom of the pile, and don't have more than a dozen different places for the button hook.

Don't communicate unpleasant news or ask a favor before eating. The heart is not easily touched when the stomach is empty.

Don't gather up all his receipts and notes that he has put carefully away on the sitting-room table—and tuck them in the fire the moment his back is turned.

Don't leave hair in the comb, or your neck curls where they will stick to the hair-brush. Don't put a long hair on the soap or in his tooth-brush purposely.

Don't ever tell a man he has pretty legs. Men who have been known to bear up under facial compliments fail completely when they realize their legs are noticeably good.

Don't put pins in your curl papers or let your crimping pins dangle on your forehead. They are abominations, and feminine implements of warfare that men despise.

Don't waste your breath in useless vituperation against his favorite chum. Cultivate the chum—ostensibly—when your husband is not around, and matters will assume a different aspect.

Don't monopolize every hook in the closet. Graciously tender him one nail for his very own—and then, in mercy, hang your "Mother Hubbard," your pelerine, your shopping bag and your bonnet in some other place.

Don't be unreasonably vexed if he is not ready for church as soon as you are. If he doesn't start to get ready till the bell begins to ring you mustn't expect the same results as with yourself, who had the whole morning before you.

Don't tell a man he is good-looking. Some other woman probably will some time, and in that case he won't know that her opinion concurs with yours. He carries a pocket hand glass now, and he will shortly become addicted to pejamas.

Don't ask him where he has been the the moment he enters the house, or where he is going if he starts out for a walk before breakfast. It nettles him, and men hate to have such pointed questions sprung upon them. Besides that we live under a free flag.

Don't impose upon your husband just because he is good enough to assist you a little in your housework. Don't leave the stove-handle in the red-hot stove, and don't ask him to empty the ash hod. Draw a line on the ash hod and don't run a free horse to death.

Don't ask him to walk the floor with the baby half the night. A man who tramps industriously around a billiard table three nights in the week, or buys an admission ticket to the opera, can't be expected to be on duty at home the other three nights. Have mercy on him, and give the man a chance to recuperate.

Don't disturb your husbnd while he is reading his morning or evening paper, by asking foolish questions. He may be only reading the latest scandal or divorce suit, but he is just as much interested as though it was foreign news or market reports. Be patient, and when he comes across anything he thinks you can comprehend perhaps he may read it to you.

Don't be inexplicit in giving directions. When you ask him to go up-stairs for your portemonnaie, tell him it is either on the table, or in the further corner of the left-hand side of the upper bureau drawer, or in the pocket of your brown dress in the closet. He will have no trouble in finding it—if you can tell him just where it is, especially the pocket.—*Chicago Herald.*

"OVERCOAT COLDS."

A Few Words on a Subject of Importance to Every One.

The London *Lancet*, a high authority on medical subjects, has an article on "Overcoat Colds" which is particularly suitable to the latitude of Milwaukee. This is the season most appropriate for a little serious reflection on the subject of overcoats. Nothing seems more simple than to adapt clothing to the weather by the addition of an overcoat, light or heavy, as the occasion requires. It must not, however, be forgotten that just in proportion as the garment super-imposed upon the ordinary clothes is effective in producing a sense of warmth, it acts by arresting the evaporation of warm vapor from the body. This warm vapor continues to rise through the ordinary clothing, but it is prevented from escaping, and the clothes are saturated with it. The general effect is well enough while the overcoat is kept on, but the moment it is removed evaporation recommences, and the body is placed in a "cooler" constructed on the principle adopted when a damp cloth is wrapped round a butter dish, the vapor passing off, abstracting the heat, and leaving the contents of the cooler refrigerated. "The point to make clear, is that the overcoat, let it be fashioned and ventilated as it may, does not prevent the underclothing from being saturated with moisture, but actually tends to make the moisture accumulate therein. This is proved by the sense of genial warmth felt while the overcoat is worn, immediately after the overcoat has been removed. Moreover, we take off the coat when we enter a warm house, and precisely at the moment when muscular activity is supended. A very little consideration will suffice to convince the common sense thinker that nothing can well be worse managed than this process, both as regards its nature and the time and conditions of its operations. It is opposed to all the canons, of health to allow the clothing to become saturated with perspiration, and to take off the external covering and suffer rapid cooling by evaporation; while, if it were designed to do this at the worst possible time, probably none worse could be found than when muscular exercise has been discontinued." A Milwaukee physician, speaking on the subject to a Wisconsin reporter last evening, said it is a good rule not to remove the outer wraps immediately upon entering the house after a brisk walk, but to wait a few moments, to allow the body to cool gradually. Ladies who wear sealskin cloaks, he said, should be particularly careful to observe this rule, as the sealskin cloak is more heating than an overcoat, and the danger of a chill after taking it off is consequently greater.

His Papa Was a Fool.

The old scriptural saying that out of the mouths of babes and sucklings cometh wisdom alike for the politician as well as the saint proved true recently in the case of a well-known Western Senator. He was sitting hard at work at his desk in his library when his little son, 5 years old, came in and sat down quietly in one corner with a picture book. The Senator worked on, unconscious that there was any one in the room but himself, and when he was deepest in his study a voice, sharp and clear, suddenly broke upon the silence, saying:

"Papa, you are a fool!"

The startled senator gathered himself together and turned about to see whence came this sage remark, and said:

"Why, Charlie, that is not quite a nice way to speak to papa. What makes you think I'm a fool?"

"Well, I think you're a fool because you said so."

"When did I say I was a fool?"

"I heard you tell mamma the other night that you were a fool to have ever gone into politics. You said it cost too much money."

The senator scratched his head and resumed his work, and the truth of his son's remark has gone unchallenged.

All for Ten Cents.

A beautiful set of gold colored picture cards and a sample copy of the St. Louis Magazine sent for 10 cents. The magazine, just entering on its sixteenth year, is $1.50 a year, yet we send IT and the WEEKLY BLADE one year for $1.75. For club of both send money to either BLADE or Magazine. For picture cards and sample copy send to C. Gilmore, 218 N. Eighth St. St. Louis, Mo.

BLADE WHITTLINGS.

SOME wide-awake grocer is going to make his everlasting fortune one of these days by keeping an absolutely clean and neat cheap grocery. Nothing is more disgusting than the way in which articles intended for food are exposed to the dust of the street, to soot, dirt and foul-smelling vapors, at many of the smaller groceries of Toledo or any other city. Codfish in boxes, so crusted with dust that the color is changed, and it is gritty to the touch; berries, in open boxes; pickles, in open barrels with a dirty scum covering them; in fine, all kinds of articles we are expected to eat exposed to the air and to the handling and picking of any dirty-handed boy who may come along. People will patronize a shop where the rule is that everything is absolutely clean, where eatables are not indiscriminately exposed, where the floor is spotless, the windows bright, the air not loaded with stale and disgusting smells, and the clerks and proprietors have clean hands, and clothing which does not need disinfection. A grocery should be as spotless and neat as a drug-store, and the first corner grocer in Toledo who starts in upon that line, and keeps it up, has a fortune awaiting him.

IT is impossible, almost, to get along in this world without lying—that is, about non-essentials. There is a certain kind of polite mendacity which adds happiness to others, where the frozen truth would hurt. For instance, who can be blamed for a deviation from the straight line of veracity when his opinion is demanded, by a fond mamma or doting papa, of a baby, which in your inmost heart you know to be as ugly as a Chinese joss? Or, to take an example more familiar to editors, does it not make the aspiring author, who has submitted a lot of dreary bosh and inane maunderings for publication, feel happier than would the direct truth, to be told the stereotyped tale that, "while good of its kind, it is not exactly what we want"—that "an editor is like a person making up a bouquet of roses in a garden; no matter how fair the lily, he does not pluck it, because it would not harmonize," etc.? Pilate's query, "What is truth?" has never yet been answered in the common, every-day intercourse of humanity. The basis of absolute truth will hardly be attained until the millenium dawns.

MISS KATE BAYARD died a victim to the exacting demands of social life. She had been warned by the family physician that she was liable to death from heart disease, and must avoid late hours and excitement. Yet she had been up until 1 o'clock on the night during which she died, and when she was called at a late hour the following day was found to have quietly passed away in her bed. It is believed by some that the wearing of a *decollete* dress on that fatal night hastened the end. With her shoulders and arms bare, she stood a long time in the hall to welcome the coming or speed the parting guest. A friend begged her to don a wrap, as she was already suffering from a cold. Accordingly she threw something about her shoulders when the door opened, and threw it off when the door was closed. The moral is plain.

DID you ever notice that when a woman begins to show her age it is always about the eyes and mouth first? She can manage the eyes with the aid of various toilet accessories, but the finer lines about the mouth are unmanageable. There is an untold effect in the pink curves of the lips, and fortunate is the woman whose mouth remains unlined into the forties. The index of the nature lies in the lips, and a lovely mouth is the rarest of woman's charms. It is said that the famous Madame de la Pompadour showed in those tell-tale lines the first warning of her marvelous beauty, and they were dreaded by her long before they appeared.

IT should be known that equal parts of cocoa-nut oil, white wax and glycerine, with a drop or two of attar of roses, makes a most delightful "balm of beauty," and is the most refreshing unguent for chapped hands and face. It will also smoothe out the wrinkles if applied nightly during the winter weather. Pretty girls who wish to see its marvelous effects can call at the BLADE office and view the masculine writer hereof.

A PUBLISHERS' journal remarks that "books on social etiquette are selling like hot cakes all over Washington this winter." Well, it is a good thing that some of the Bourbons from 'way back, who have never been familiar with the usages of polite society—even of such a social olla podrida as Washington "society" is—are anxious to get the hayseed out of their hair.

THE dude is passing away, even in his native place, the Bible. The common sense of the American girl has at last revolted at his vapidity and vacuousness, has declared that he is an imbecile and an idiot, and that he must go—at least from her presence—for the will is a power of this. He was a weak and feeble imitation of his London prototype. The world is the better for his going.

A SHARP TARGETMAN.

Doing Two Men's Work, On Duty 24 Hours Every Day.

Not many miles from Chicago lives a targetman, who for nearly four years has played a little game admirable for its boldness and ingenuity. The duties of a targetman, every one should know, are to keep constant lookout at the crossing of two railroads and to swing the red danger signal over one track at the approach of a train on the other. For ten years one man has held the position of day targetman, and he is still there. Four years ago the night man was killed, and the day man, acting under instructions, reported the name of a man competent to take the deceased's place. This man was accordingly placed on the pay-roll and received his salary regularly from the pay car. The junction at which these men were employed is merely a crossing out on the prairie. There is no house there beside the targetman's shanty, and, a few rods away, his humble dwelling. A few weeks ago it was accidentally discovered that for four years one man has drawn two men's pay, and that the new man who was hired four years ago never existed, save in the imagination of the man who pretended to hire him. But the targetman who drew two men's pay also did two men's work. For four years he has lived in that little shanty night and day. Not ten hours in all that time has he been farther from the crossing than the little frame house where he ate his meals. Twenty-four hours a day and 365 days a year he has been on the lookout for approaching locomotive headlights and smokestacks. Of course he could not have performed such service as this without assistance, but all the assistance he had was that of an automatic signal rigged up by himself during a few of his many leisure hours. Stretching an old piece of telegraph wire half a mile up the track in each direction he drew it taut and affixed a connecting trigger to the surface of the rail, so that the wheels of every approaching engine would pull the wire and drop an old hat into his face as he slept in his shanty. By this means he was enabled to secure plenty of sleep between trains, and at the same time be sure of being awake and on duty whenever needed. Every pay day he presented at the car not only his own order, but that of the imaginary night targetman, properly indorsed, and thus received the pay for two men's work. This story is told upon the authority of an official of the interested company, who adds that the question now is whether the man shall be compelled to give up one of his salaries or be permitted to continue his little scheme. It is admitted that his duties have always been faithfully performed. —*Chicago Herald.*

Gen. John A. Logan,

U. S. Senator from Illinois, writes; "Some years ago I was troubled more or less with rheumatism, and have within the last year or so, suffered intensely with same disease. I began to take "Durang's Rheumatic Remedy, and am thoroughly satisfied that I have been cured by its use. I do not hesitate to recommend it." It is taken internally, and never fails to cure the worst case. Sold by all druggists. Write for free 40 page pamphlet to R. K. Helphenstine, Washington, D. C.

Man is no Longer What he Was.

"Father," said a young lady to her paternial friend, "do you think that we, as a race, are rapidly degenerating?" "I do, indeed," replied her sire. "In your opinion, do you think man is now what he used to be?" asked the daughter. "No, there is a great difference between the two, for he used to be a boy."

To Weak Men

Suffering from Nervous Debility, Early Decay, Loss of Vitality, Weakness of Body and Mind, etc., I will send you a valuable treatise containing full particulars for certain restoration to health and manhood free of charge. A reliable cure. Address Prof. F. C. Fowler, Moodus, Conn.

JUST AS BAD AS PAINTED.

Widespread Commotion Caused by the Terrible Confession of a Physician.

The story published in these columns recently from the Rochester, N. Y. *Democrat and Chronicle*, created a deal of comment here as it has elsewhere. Apparently it caused even more comment in Rochester, as the following from the same paper shows:

Dr. J. D. Henion, who is well-known not only in Rochester, but in nearly every part of America, sent an extended article to this paper a few days ago which was duly published, detailing his remarkable experience and rescue from what seemed to be certain death. It would be impossible to enumerate the personal inquiries which have been made at our office as to the validity of the article, but they have been so numerous that further investigation of the subject was deemed necessary.

With this end in view a representative of this paper called on Dr. Henion at his residence on Andrews street, when the following interview occurred: "That article of yours, Doctor, has created quite a whirlwind. Are the statements about the terrible condition you were in and the way you were rescued, such as you can sustain?"

"Every one of them and many additional ones. I was brought so low by neglecting the first and most simple symptoms. I did not think I was sick. It is true I had frequent headaches; felt tired most of the time; could eat nothing one day and was ravenous the next; felt dull pains and my stomach was out of order, but I did not think it meant anything serious. The medical profession has been treating symptoms instead of diseases for years, and it is high time it ceased. Those symptoms I have just mentioned or any unusual action or irritation of the water channels indicate the approach of kidney disease more than a cough announces the coming of consumption. We do not treat the cough, but try to help the lungs. We should not waste our time trying to relieve the headache, pains about the body or other symptoms, but go directly to the kidneys, the source of most of these ailments."

"This, then, is what you meant when you said that more than one-half the deaths which occur arise from Bright's disease, is it, Doctor?"

"Precisely. Thousands of diseases are torturing people to-day, which in reality are Bright's disease in some of its many forms. It is a hydra-headed monster, and the slightest symptoms should strike terror to every one who has them. I can look back and recall hundreds of deaths which physicians declared at the time were caused by paralysis, apoplexy, heart disease, pneumonia, malarial fever, and other common complaints, which I see now were caused by Bright's disease."

"And did all of these cases have simple symptoms at first?"

"Every one of them, and might have been cured as I was by the timely use of the same remedy. I am getting my eyes thoroughly opened in this matter, and think I am helping others to see the facts and their possible danger also."

Mr. Warner, who was visited at his establishment on North St. Paul street, spoke very earnestly.

"It is true that Bright's disease has increased wonderfully, and we find by reliable statistics, that from '70 to '80, its growth was over 250 per cent. Look at the prominent men it has carried off, and is taking off every year, for while many are dying apparently of paralysis and apoplexy, they are really victims of kidney disorder, which causes heart disease, paralysis, apoplexy, etc. Nearly every week the papers record the death of some prominent man from this scourge. Recently, however, the increase has been checked, and I attribute this to the general use of my remedy."

"Do you think many people are afflicted with it to day who do not realize it?"

"A prominent professor in a New Orleans medical college was lecturing before his class on the subject of Bright's disease. He had various fluids under microscopic analysis, and were showing the students what the indications of this terrible malady were. And now, gentlemen," said he, "as you have seen the unhealthy indications I will show you how it appears in a state of perfect health,' and he submitted his own fluid to the usual test. As he watched the results his countenance suddenly changed—his color and composure left him, and in a trembling voice he said: 'Gentlemen I have made a painful discovery: *I* have Bright's disease of the kidneys.' And in less than a year he was dead. The slightest indication of any kidney difficulty should be enough to strike terror to any one."

"You know Dr. Henion's case?"

"Yes, I have both read and heard of it."

"It is very wonderful, is it not?"

"No more so than a great many others that have come to my notice as having been cured by the same means."

"You believe then that Bright's disease can be cured?"

"I know it can. I know it from my own and the experience of thousands of prominent persons who were given up to die by both their physicians and friends."

"You speak of your own experience; what was it?"

"A fearful one. I had felt languid and unfitted for business for years. But I did not know what ailed me. When, however, I found it was kidney difficulty I thought there was little hope and so did the doctors. I have since learned that one of the physicians of this city admitted me out to a gentleman on the street one day, saying: 'There goes a man who will be dead within a year.' I believe his words would have proved true if I had not providentially used the remedy now known as Warner's Safe Cure."

"Did you make a chemical analysis of the case of Mr. H. H. Warner some three years ago, Doctor?" was asked Dr. S. A. Lattimore, one of the analysts of the state board of health.

"Yes, sir."

"What did this analysis show you?"

"A serious disease of the kidneys."

"Did you think Mr. Warner could recover?"

"No, sir. I did not think it possible."

"Do you know anything about the remedy which cured him?"

"I have chemically analyzed it and find it pure and harmless."

Dr. Henion was cured *five years ago* and *is well* and attending to his professional duties to-day in this city. The standing of Dr. Henion, Mr. Warner and Dr. Lattimore in the community is beyond question, and the statements they make cannot for a moment be doubted. Dr. Henion's experience shows that Bright's disease of the kidneys is one of the most deceptive and dangerous of all diseases, that it is exceedingly common, but that it can be cured if taken in time.

Touch on Tommy.

"Tommy, will you have some more pudding, my son?" asked Mrs. Smiley at the Christmas dinner. There was a large company present and she spoke very pleasantly to Tommy, for she was afraid he might be disagreeable, Tommy was in the habit of making disagreeable remarks when there was company.

"I don't know whether I will take any more pudding or not. You are always saying that I eat as much as four boys."

"Why, Tommy, you know better than that."

"Yes, you and pa are always saying I'm no better than a pig. Are you sure enough in earnest when you ask me if I want some more pudding?"

"Tommy, I'm ashamed of you. Won't you have some more pudding, just a little more. Come now, that's a good," boy," said Mrs. Smiley, looking at him as if she would like to skin him alive.

"Well," replied Tommy, defiantly, "I'm in a fix. If I say I want some more pudding, then you'll say after the folks are gone the little pig had to have pudding twice. If I don't take any more pudding, then you'll say that I ate so much turkey that I couldn't eat any more pudding when you offered it to me. Darned if I know what to say. A New York boy has a tough time of it about Christmas, anyhow."—*Texas Siftings.*

Cure for the Deaf.

Peck's patent improved cushioned ear drums perfectly restore the hearing and perform the work of the natural drum. Always in position, but invisible to others, and comfortable to wear. All conversation and even whispers heard distinctly. We refer to those using them. Send for illustrated book with testimonials free. Address F. Hiscox, 853 Broadway, N. Y. Mention this paper.

He Tempted Fate.

A handsome fire-eater from Yazoo, Miss., went to New Orleans, and paraded about the streets for some days with a fine dog at his heels and a thousand dollar silver certificate pinned to the lapel of his coat, to show his safety and his utter indifference to the knavery reported in that city. After he had thus advertised himself for a week, he awakened one morning to find that his coat, silver certificate, diamond pin and a roll of $500 had mysteriously disappeared; the dog was left, however, and the sad owner probably has a better opinion of the animal than he has of himself.

St. Jacobs Oil marks a great advance in the science of a cure. It is the only absolute specific for rheumatism. Only 50 cents.

The Camp Fire.

THE CUSTER BUGLE SONG.

AIR—*Tramp, tramp, the boys are marching.*

Comrades listen to the notes
From the glorious days of war,
Sounding down along the years that intervene,
When the Blue went marching on
With the tread like thunder grand,
And a million bayonets glistened with their sheen.

Chorus—
Clear, sweet, soft the bugle's calling,
From the battle days of yore—
'Tis the "Reveille" we hear,
And its notes of martial cheer
We will welcome as we did in the before.
(The bugle call of "Reveille.")

From the blooming Shenandoah
And the Rocky Mountains blue,
Upward comes the sound of the mustering of men,
And we hear them march and form
Like the gathering of a storm,
To the warlike winding bugle notes again.

Chorus—
Clear, sweet, soft the bugle's calling,
From the battle days of yore—
The "Assembly" call we hear,
And its notes of martial cheer,
We will welcome as we did in days before.
(The bugle call of "Assembly.")

Now across the Western plains
By the Rocky Mountain chains
We can see the moving lines of horse and men,
With our Custer brave ahead,
They are launched like thunderbolts
On the yelling, painted Cheyenne Indian band.

Chorus—
Clear, sweet, soft the bugle's calling
From the battle days of yore,
'Tis the royal "Charge" we hear,
And its notes of martial cheer
We will welcome as we did in days before.
(The bugle call of the "Charge.")

Now the beams of setting sun
Have lit up the flashing west,
And the weary soldier's daily task is done;
And he thinks of friends and home
And the day that soon will come
When the victory so grandly will be won.

Chorus—
Clear, sweet, soft the bugle's calling
From the battle days of yore;
'Tis the loved "Retreat" we hear,
And its notes of martial cheer
We will welcome as we did in days before.
(The bugle call of "Retreat.")

Oft the magic notes we hear,
When the midnight hour is near,
And we dream of loyal days we loved so well;
And the tears they fill the eye,
For we think with heavy sigh
Of the boys who ne'er shall hear the music swell.

Chorus—
Clear, sweet, soft the bugle's calling
From the battle days of yore,
'Tis the final call we hear,
And their notes of royal cheer
We will welcome as we did in days before.
(The bugle call to arms.)

Chat Around the Fire.

Mrs. W. G. Helms, Wallport, Ore., is a soldier's daughter and a soldier's wife, her husband being of Co. K, 169th Pa.

C. S. Bassett, 45th Ia., Charleston, Ia.:

In looking over the CAMP FIRE I notice one letter inquiring about the hundred day men. I am one of them, and belonged to Co. C, 45th Iowa. I was mustered in at Keokuk, Iowa, May, 1864, and was taken to St. Louis, stopped there one day at Benton barracks, then started for Memphis, and there to Memphis, and stuck a week at Cape Girardeau, on a sand bar. At Memphis we were placed on the chain guard line, and from there were taken to Moscow to guard the railroad bridge on the Memphis & Chattanooga R. R. Our principal duty was guard duty and foraging. I am a nephew of D. L. Chantry, of Co. C, 46th Iowa Ia. He was color bearer, and I will say for the benefit of D. H. Bingham, of Co. C, 46th Iowa, that he lives at Casey, Iowa.

Minnie E. Griffin, Savery, Kan., writes: My father was a Union soldier, of Co. A, 152d Illinois. I had eight uncles in the army of the Union. They are all living but one, who died in the hospital at Lake Providence, La. We take the BLADE, and consider it the best paper published. My father would like to hear from some of his comrades.

W. M. Clark, 24 Tenn., Ironville, Tenn.:

I have just read a letter in the CAMP FIRE department of the BLADE of the 17th inst. from Co. A, 3d N. Y., which clearly establishes the fact that he is either very ignorant or very bilious. If the former, let him read the BLADE more attentively; if the latter, let him be sent to the surgeon's quarters and dosed with blue mass. He says: "All I have to say, our country is ungrateful." Why? Because the government chose to protect the colored soldiers? Yes, I think he answers. Shame on you, comrade! Twenty-fifths or more of the regiment to which I had the honor to belong were mustered out at Folly Island and Jacksonville and crossed the river to the Eternal Shores. The story of the prison hells are indelibly written on the decrepit forms of those of the remaining two-fifths who are so fortunate as to be alive. And yet, I have never heard one of them complain at the action of the government regarding the exchange of pris

Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice address must be given in all cases, but, when specially requested, they will not be published.

2. No will be paid to mathematical problems, questions of grammatical construction, or inquiries regarding the reliability of individuals, firms or corporations.

3. Communications for this department MUST be written on a separate sheet, directed to the Question Bureau, and contain not more than three questions. To not ask a question and then proceed to argue it. If we can answer it, and it is considered of general interest, it will be answered. It is useless to request an answer in the next issue. The question bureau is always full, and we are compelled to answer in the order behind.

4. This department is not intended to settle petty disputes or decide bets. Replies to questions are intended to be of general interest, and no one has the right to demand a reply. As all matter for this department passes through the hands of one man, he reserves the right to reject all he considers not to be answered. Do not request an answer by mail.

5. No question will receive the slightest attention unless the first and third rules above are STRICTLY complied with.

KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

E. F. H., Elchart, Ind.:

Will you please give a short history of the Knights of Labor—what their principles are, and what they calculate to do; when they were organized, etc.?

Uriah S. Stevens, a clothing cutter of Philadelphia, founded the order in 1869. He was a member of the Methodist church, and a "well-to-do person. He received a good education, and his parents desired to make a minister of him, but he preferred a trade. He traveled through the United States, and died in Philadelphia. Assemble No. 1 was not fully organized until 1873, and was largely composed of clothing cutters. The order spread from one body of workmen to another, until it counted nearly a hundred assemblies in Philadelphia. Pittsburg was the next city to organize an assembly, and since then the advance of the order has been marvelous, embracing in its membership men in every trade, and of every profession. Mr. Stevens died in 1882, while holding the office of general master workman. At present the officers of the order are: Master Workman T. V. Powderly; Master Workman Worthy Foreman Richard Griffith, Chicago; General Secretary-Treasurer Frederick Turner, Philadelphia; General Auditor J. G. Daville, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Secretary of Insurance Association H. L. McEwan, Pittsburg. The executive board is composed of T. V. Powderly, Frederick Turner, J. W. Hayes, W. H. Bailey, and T. B. Barry. The co-operative board is composed of J. F. McGinty, J. R. Sovereign, P. D. Cattaway, A. Hugh Cameron, and Henry Meate. The headquarters is at whatever town or city the secretary happens to be a resident. The annual and local assemblies and D. A.-semblies are composed of persons all following one calling so far as is possible, so that in New York one local assembly is composed of printers, another of tailors, another of cigar-makers, another of plumbers, another of shoemakers, and another is what is called a "mixed district," or one in which followers of trades not represented in the others are united in one organization. The Philadelphia D. A. is composed of a leather-workers', a shoemakers' and a mixed district. There are 4,500 of these local assemblies. One great secret of the growth in popularity and numbers of the order must be seen in the low cost of membership. For men or women it is as little as $1 for 100 or 50 cents for women, and very rarely are local assemblies exact no more, though there are local assemblies that fix the fee at 25 cents. Considering the value derived to membership in the existence of a great fund in the treasury and great strength in numbers. The dues at first are apt to be only 10 cents a month, and even when a district has been fully established it is rare for as to warrant the assaying of its persistent officer the cost in the local assemblies is no higher than 40 cents, and is often only 25 cents a month. When the work of building up a new district or a great district is too great to permit an officer to continue to attend to the means by which he supports his family, the local assemblies pay a salary to the missionary of the district, but the salary is merely the sum he was formerly able to earn at his trade. This is why the monthly tax is a few cents higher in some places than others. The only assessment for collecting funds is that of paying the per capita tax to the General Assembly of North America, which is 24 cents a year. These pennies that roll in constantly keep the treasury full to overflowing, and Mr. Turner gets only $2,000. The members of the all-powerful executive board are paid like mechanics, $3 a day and expenses, and only for the days on which they are actually at work. The only other persons who get any pay are delegates and the "organizers," who train aspiring bodies of workmen how they may enter the great order after the manner of explaining fully that initiation implies and membership amounts to. But even these men receive pay only when duty has taken them out of town. It is claimed by members of the order that its growth is phenomenal. The remedy is to "boycott" until the firm or corporation is compelled to come to terms. The idea of the founder of the order was the development of educated labor-sovereignty. Strikes and lockouts have made the order an instrument for immediate results. Demands are made of state legislatures for the abolition of the convict contract plan on public works, the abolition of the employment of children under 14 years, a graduated income tax; wages to be paid weekly; bureaus of labor statistics, etc. At the hands of the general government the establishment of a National monetary system in which a circulating medium is necessary quantity shall issue direct to the people, without the intervention of banks; that all the National bonds shall be full legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private; and that the government shall not guarantee or recognize any private banks, or create any banking corporations. There shall be no bonds, no bills of credit or notes shall never be issued by the government, but that, when need arises, the emergency shall be met by issue of legal-tender, non-interest-bearing money. That the importation of foreign labor under contract be prohibited. That, in connection with the postoffice, the government shall organize financial exchanges, safe deposits and facilities for deposit of savings of the people in national banks. That the government shall obtain possession, by purchase, under the right of eminent domain, of all telegraph, telephones and railroads, and that hereafter no charter be granted to any corporation for construction or operation of any means of transporting intelligence, passengers or freight. And, while making the foregoing demands upon the State and National government, they will endeavor to associate their own labors. To establish co-operative institutions such as will tend to supersede the wage system, by the introduction of the co-operative industrial system. To secure for both sexes equal pay for equal work. To shorten the hours of labor by a general refusal to work for more than eight hours. To establish a tribunal across all differences which may arise between them and their employes in order that the bonds of sympathy between them may be strengthened, and that strikes may be rendered unnecessary.

JUSTINIAN—INFIDELS.

W. F. K., Chariton, Iowa:

1. Give a brief biography of Justinian, the Iowa writes. Was he a great infidels of the past—a majority of them—denied the existence of a God, or merely doubted the divine origin of Christ? 2. Please tell us how to play progressive euchre.

1. Born at Tauresium, a village near Sardica (now Sophia), in Bulgaria, in 482 or 483, died November 14, 565. He was the son of a poor barbarian peasant, Sabbatius, who, when young, was by his uncle, Justin I., who shortly before his death in 527 adopted him as co-emperor at the request of the senate. Justinian, who had received a liberal education, and was a man of considerable ambition, was possessed long before the decease of the latter of all power in the state, as well as of a large private fortune. He shared both the throne and bed with Theodora, a beautiful, crafty, and unscrupulous woman, the daughter of a keeper of wild beasts, who had been long known as a notorious public prostitute, and had openly by the people of the capital as one of the vilest of her sex. Having married her in spite of all opposition, he not only seated her on his throne, but made her his chief counselor, and, becoming abjectly, corrupting, and despotic influence remained powerful till her death in the old year of their reign. In the questions of creed in the church and state he displayed the characteristics of the hippodrome, then distracting the empire, Justinian and his wife were agreed in zealously supporting the orthodox and the blue parties. In the capital and most of the provinces they were thus powerless, but the factions of the greens was often able to resist by open violence the arrogance of their opponents and oppressors. In 50, after a fierce contest in the streets in which a great part of the city was burned, tranquility was restored. Justinian now turned his chief attention to the external interests of his vast empire. During a long minority and reign, a brave from Chersonesus in Asia Minor, after a war of a few years waged with varying success, he sent Belisarius with a fleet and an army against Gel mer, who had usurped power in the kingdom of the Vandals of Africa, and also as an Arian persecuted his Catholic subjects. A series of victories soon brought Carthage and the person of Gelmer himself into the power of the Byzantines. Belisarius was then sent to Constantinople, where the kingdom of the Vandals destroyed, and the Arian worship suppressed. The conquest of the province of Africa and the adjoining provinces proconsular Mauritania and some strong stations in Spain, and paved the way for the re-establishment of the Roman imperial power in Italy, where Theodoius had succeeded (535) the regent Amalasuntha, who usurped the power on the death of her son Athalaric, the profligate grandson of Theodoric the Great. Belisarius successively reduced Sicily and conquered Naples. Thereupon he was declared by his army and acclaimed emperor. Totila, the Ostrogothic king, was reduced, but Justinian from envy recalled the conqueror. Once more, however, Belisarius, who had overthrown Syria in 541, and Belisarius, after a short period of disgrace, was again sent into Italy to prevent the capture of Rome by Totila. The attempt to weaken Belisarius by sending Germanus and Liberius finally succeeded in the command by Narses. In 552 Justinian once more received the keys of the ancient capital, which in his reign had been five times taken and recovered. Totila had fallen in the battle of Tarzina, and his successor Teias, the last of the Ostrogothic kings, shared the same fate on the Sarnus in the following year. Another great victory of Narses finally Franks and Alemanni, who had invaded Italy, secured the possession of that country, which he governed as exarch, residing in Ravenna. In the East, Justinian terminated a protracted war with the Persians by a peace (561), in which Chosroes extorted the ignominious promise of an annual tribute. The northern frontiers of the empire were in part secured against the invasion of the barbarians by similar treaties, and a vast line of fortifications, especially along the Danube, was added from a feeling of precaution which the degeneracy of the empire made but too natural. The imperial armies themselves consisted mainly of barbarian hirelings. In the interiar the reign of Justinian was marked by tyranny, extortion, and lavish extenditure, especially in the erection of sumptuous buildings, of which the rebuilt church of St. Sophia was the most magnificent; by a continual meddling in the affairs of the church, and the severe persecution of heretics, Samaritans, Jews, and pagans, involving the dissolution of the Athenian school of philosophy and by unintrigues at the court, which, among others, finally succeeded in ruining Belisarius. Justinian, however, who was fond of studies as well as of arts, has the great merit of having, through Tribonian and other lawyers, prepared that code of Roman laws which bears his name and is the great monument of his reign. The introduction of silkworms from China through some missionaries, who brought the eggs in hollow sticks, is another of its lasting merits. Justinian was patient, frugal, and diligent, but vain, selfish, and ungrateful. "He was neither beloved in his life nor regretted at his death." He was succeeded by Justin II., his nephew. 2. They doubted the divine origin of Christianity. 3. The rules were published in this department a short time ago.

THE COSSACKS.

Reader, Hillsboro, Wis.:

Please give a description and history of the Cossacks of Russia.

In their own as well as in the Russian language they are called Kazaks, which in Turkish designates robbers, and in the dialect of the Tartars free, light mounted warriors. Whether this be the original name, or whether they have inscribed it from a more eastern people, is a matter of controversy, as well as whether they came into Russia as a horde from the east, and spread as far as the Dniepar, or whether they have been conglomerated into a national body through a long course of time, from various fragments of roving or fugitive neighboring tribes. It is believed that about the middle of the fourteenth century the banks of the southern Dnieper or its tributaries were settled by Russians, who fled before the invading Poles, built villages and towns, were joined by people from the neighboring borders, and thus formed the bulk of the warlike Malorussian tribe, which so often appears in the border wars of the Poles, Russians and Crimean Tartars. Stephen Bathori, one of the ablest kings of Poland (1576-86), constituted these Cossacks of the Ukraine the guards of the southeast Polish frontier, giving them a regular military organization under hetman (Russian attamans, or chiefs). But the encroachments of Polish officials and the persecutions by Polish Jesuits under the following reigns, exasperated the Cossacks, who belonged to the Greek church, and their insurrection under Chmielnicki (1639) was stained with the wildest deeds, and ended with their submission to Russia (1674). But the new rule proved no less oppressive, and a part of the tribe was ready to follow Mazeppa, their attaman, and to join Charles the XII. against Peter the Great. For this attempt, which failed, the Czar took bloody revenge after his victory at Poltava, and many of the Cossacks fled to the Crimea, where they were allowed to return under the reign of Anna. Of these western Cossacks, the Zaporogians (in Slavic, those beyond the cascades, viz.: of the Dnieper) were famous in all times as the boldest, fiercest, and most predatory. They despised marriage, and recruited their numbers by kidnapping children. The eastern Cossacks appear in the service of the Russian Czars as early as the first half of the sixteenth century. Before the severity of Ivan the Terrible, the adventurer Yermak fled with a small band of Cossacks to Siberia, roved over its vast plains, and gave it to Russia for his pardon. Some of their revolts were as dangerous to Russia as were those of the western Cossacks to Poland; and that under Pugatcheff, during the reign of Catharine II., shook the empire to its very foundation. Since the bloody suppression of this revolt, the chief object of the government has been gradually to deprive them of their independence, by transforming their bodies into more regular military organization, after the pattern of chief attaman now vested in the crown prince of Russia. The eastern division, which has been strengthened by transplantations from the western under Catharine II., forms now the great bulk of the Cossacks. Their chief province is the vast steppes west of the Ion, which gives the name to the tribe, with Tcherkask, a kind of Venice near the mouth of that river, as capital, now constituting a government of European Russia, with an area of 59,654 square miles, and a population in 1867 of 1,010,135. Southeast of them live the Tchernomoreans (in Russian, those of the Black Sea), east of these the Terekians; the Volgaic and Uralian tribes live near the lower course of the rivers from which their names are derived; others still further east. They are divided into districts and stanitzas (settlements). By a ukase of October 21, 1868, the districts east of the Ural and Siberian Cossacks were, conjointly with the districts of the Orenburg and Siberian Kirghizes, organized into the four provinces of Ural Turgai, Akmolinsk, and Semipalatinsk. The Cossacks are equal among themselves, elect their officers, except the attamans, and are free from taxation. Their chief occupation in time of peace are fishing and breeding of cattle; agriculture, commerce, and industry are little developed. Horse, dress and arms of riches. In time of war all men from 18 to 50 years of age are bound to serve on horseback. They provide their armor at their own expense, but have the free choice of their dress. Their arms are a lance ten to twelve feet long, a carbine, pistols, and a sabre. Their horses are small, but swift and indefatigable. They are divided into poiks (regiments), sub-divided into hundreds, fifties and tens. They are particularly expert in surprising and intercepting small detachments, in annoying an army on the march, and in deranging or pursuing an enemy in retreat or in flight. It is well known how dreadful they were to the French retreating from Moscow. The number of all the Cossacks of Russia is variously estimated at 1,-500,000 to 3,000,000. Their language is the Russian, but intermixed with Polish and Tartar words. They adhere to the Greek creek. They are strong, hardy and active. They wear beards, round caps, and wide trousers.

MONEY PER CAPITA.

M. W., Hornit, Mo.:

Please give the amount of money per capita of the United States, and also of a number of the most important powers or countries in the world.

The following is the latest we have at hand:

COUNTRIES.	Total paper currency and specie.	Per Capita. Paper.	Specie.
Argentine Republic	$ 46,101,750	$14 61	$ 3 54
Australia	96,010,722	9 03	25 01
Austria-Hungary	417,912,324	8 34	3 31
Belgium	105,344,115	11 78	2 91
Bolivia	6,331,741	49	2 32
Brazil	102,000,000	9 18	....
Canada	64,9 7,409	11 38	3 07
Central America	2,8 5,574	07	03
Chili	32,255,341	10 97	2 47
Colombia	4,495,313	63	1 50
Cuba	74,0 3,443	32 17	22 07
Denmark	38,485,707	9 64	8 74
France	2,937,414,417	76 16	20 41
Germany	764,484,783	4 59	12 31
Great Britain	884,361,617	5 77	19 31
Greece	29,14 ,000	12 0	2 73
Hayti	4,780,000	....	6 36
India, British	1,089,783,120	24	4 07
Italy	514,793,100	10 26	7 73
Japan	279,746,112	3 82	3 81
Mexico	52,0 5,299	01	5 23
Netherlands	151,360,230	18 92	18 34
Peru	14,480,824	4 29	6 3
Portugal	45,0 9,300	1 10	8 79
Russia	1,024,74 ,018	8 82	1 21
Spain	268,85 ,574	4 14	12 03
Sweden and Norway	51,541,933	5 19	2 17
Switzerland	19,083,440	6 42	11 14
Turkey	91,081,200	2 11	3 09
United States	1,750,588,074	17 63	16 88
Uruguay	11,587,000	13 66	2 28
Venezuela	5,250,000	09	1 86

JULIA BRACE.

E. H., Osseo., Wis.:

1. Can you give an account of Julia Brace (I think that was the name), the deaf, dumb and blind girl we used to read of in Sunday-school books 40 or 50 years ago? 2. Treat of a clock once that had kept going for some years. I think it was in Germany. Is there now, or has there ever been such a thing?

1. The following is taken from an account of her life published in 18.3: She was born at Newington, Conn., in 1806. She lost both sight and hearing at the age of 4½ years, and soon forgot the use of speech. She had learned to speak. In 1825 she entered the American asylum for the deaf and dumb at Hartford and remained there about 30 years, when she went to Bloomfield, Conn., where she died in the autumn of 1864. According to these accounts she seemed possessed of only ordinary abilities. In all that concerns outward and material nature she manifests much intelligence. She pieces sewed gentlemen's shirts of unusual and nice pow-ers of discrimination, being able to distinguish readily articles belonging to different persons. She keeps herself apprised of the progress of time, days, weeks and months, and notes the recurrence of the Sabbath. In her intellectual education she has made little progress; a few facts have been acquired but soon forgotten. It is doubtful if she possesses any distinct idea of God, but she has thus have a sense of right and wrong. She has never been guilty of theft, falsehood or any deliberate wickedness, and, while tenacious of her own rights, she will not knowingly invade those of others. 2 Never heard of it.

AMBER.

J. H. W., Sand Hill, W. Va.:

What is the use of amber, and where is it found?

Amber is ultimately composed of carbon 79, hydrogen 10, and oxygen 10.5. An acid called succinic acid (named from the Latin *succinum*, amber) is obtained from it. Amber had formerly a high reputation as a medicine, but the virtues ascribed to it were almost entirely imaginary. An antispasmodic volatile oil is obtained from it by distillation. Amber is employed in the arts, for the manufacture of many ornamental articles, and for the preparation of a kind of varnish. Great quantities are consumed in Mohammedan worship at Mecca, and it is in great demand throughout the East. It was obtained by the ancients from the Coasts of the Baltic Sea, where it is now found, especially between Konigsberg and Memel, in greater abundance than any where else in the world. It is there partly cast up by the sea, partly obtained by means of dredging, and partly dug out of a bed of bituminous wood. It is found elsewhere also in coal, and occasionally in diluvial deposits, as in the gravel near London; but it is very rarely obtained in small pieces, in large quantities from the coast of Sicily and the Adriatic, and is found in different parts of Europe, in Siberia, Greenland, etc. It sometimes enclosed insects or species which no longer exist. Leaves have also been found enclosed in it. Specimens which contain insects or leaves being much valued, fictitious ones are often manufactured and imposed upon collectors. According to the fabulous account of the Greeks, the tears of the sisters of Phaethon, who, after his death, were changed into poplars. The ancients set an immense value upon it. Pieces of amber have occasionally been found of 11 or 13 pounds weight, but such pieces are extremely rare. In the Dantzig museum, Germany, there is at present on exhibition a piece of amber weighing eight pounds. It is probably the largest in the world. It was five times stolen, and the owner has refused $7,000 for it. Frederick the Great, more than a century ago, paid the same sum for a piece weighing 13 pounds, which is preserved in the mineralogical museum at Berlin, but it has gaps and cavities. Two beautiful pieces of work in amber are also to be seen in Berlin. One is a flute, which also was an acquisition of Frederick the Great. The other is a complete tobacco pipe, belonging to Frederick William III., the father of the present emperor; it bears an admirably carved likeness of that monarch.

MOUNT VERNON.

Reader, Crawfordsville, Iowa:

Please give a description of Washington's tomb, house and grounds at Mt Vernon, as they now are, as minute as space will allow.

At the time of Washington's decease the estate comprised several thousand acres. The mansion is beautifully situated on a swelling height crowned with trees, and commanding a fine view up and down the Potomac. The house is of wood, two stories high and 96 feet long, with a lofty portico extending along the whole front. On the ground floor are six rooms, none large except the dining-room. The library and Washington's bedroom remain as they were at the time of his death, and contain many articles of great interest. In front of the house sloping to the river is a lawn of five or six acres. About 300 yards south of the mansion, on a hillside in full view of the river, is the old family vault, where the body of Washington was first laid, and remained till 1830, when it was removed to a new vault at no great distance on the edge of a deep wooded dell. Mount Vernon mansion was built by George Washington's elder brother Lawrence, who settled there in 1743, and named the estate in honor of Admiral Vernon, under whom he had served in the West Indies. George Washington added wings to the mansion, and greatly enlarged and embellished the estate, which was his home from boyhood till his death. He bequeathed it to Bushrod Washington, from whom it passed to his nephew John A. Washington. By him the mansion and 200 acres of land were sold in 1858 for $200,000 to the "Ladies' Mount Vernon Association," who design to hold it in perpetuity as a place of public resort and pilgrimage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

L. J., Wheeler, Ia.:

Can the Indian become a voter?

Yes, by renouncing allegiance to his tribe, or chief.

B., Northeast, Pa.:

What is a United States $20 gold piece worth in English gold in London, Eng.?

About $17.45.

A. B., Lancaster, Tex.: Many scientific essays on the soaring of birds like the vulture, eagle, condor, etc., have been written, but the principle is not thoroughly understood.

I. W., South Bend, Ind.:

1. Does hard cider and wine contain alcohol? 2. Is not alcohol the intoxicating principle of all intoxicating drinks?

1-2. Yes.

J. B., Iowa City, Iowa:

What is the official language of the Argentine Republic?

Spanish.

M. F. B., Constantine, Mich.:

Has the ratio of murders increased in Michigan since the abolition of the death penalty? Think not.

J., T. M., (no postoffice):

What is the weight of the largest engine that runs on a railroad?

Ninety tons, in use on the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe.

C. W., South Haven, Kan.:

Please publish the congratulatory order of Gen. Custer at the Appomattox Court House, at Gen Lee's surrender.

Cannot find it.

M. D. B., Fairwater, Minn.:

1. What was the maiden name of Mrs. George Washington? 2. Are there any descendants of Gen. Lafayette living?

1. Dandridge. 2. Think so.

J. A. B., Middleport, N. Y.:

Please give us all the information you can about the Townley-Chase estate.

The news columns of the BLADE have contained all the information in our possession.

C. M. P., Washington, D. C.: The BLADE has no copy of the speech you ask for If the speech was made in Congress, you will find it in the Congressional Record. Call at the bookstores to obtain the poetry, etc., you ask about.

J. A. B., (no postoffice):

I read of "working like a Trojan." What does it mean?

The Trojans are supposed to have worked pretty hard in fortifying Troy to resist the Greeks.

Sub., North Yamhill, O.:

1. Does Congress meet every year? 2. If so, why is this the 49th Congress?

1. Yes. 2 Because the life of each Congress is two years. This is the first session of the 49th Congress.

T. W., Litchfield, Ill.:

Please tell how to solder tin ware successfully.

Take four parts pewter, one part tin, and one part bismuth. Use powdered resin when soldering. The tin must be perfectly clean.

J. H., Mt. Etna., Ind.:

Is there any instrument or measure by which seers, who, it is claimed see a point in the heavens because of fogs, clouds, etc., can locate themselves except by knowing the course, speed, etc., which they have traveled?

No.

M. F. S., Edgerton, O.:

Can an importer of goods from a foreign country hold an office in the custom-house of the United States?

An importer cannot be secretary of the treasury, nor do we think an importer would be allowed to hold any office in the customs service.

J. B., Boaz, Wis.:

If a soldier dies with any other disease than that upon which his pension certificate was granted, would his pension stop, or would his widow draw it? 2. Are there any states that allow interest on bonds accounts?

1. The widow would draw it. 2. Think not.

G. W., Strawberry Point, Iowa:

1. Please give date of the burning of the ill-fated Erie on Lake Erie. 2. Also full particulars.

1. About 5 o'clock P. M., July 9, 1841. 2. Have been given. The fire originated in a barrel of turpentine, while the steamer was 20 miles from land, and out of 200 on board, 175 were lost.

W. H. S., Hooper, Iowa:

I wish to procure a description of the vacant government lands in the states of Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas. Whom shall I address?

The registers of the different land offices. The list has been given several times in the BLADE.

D. J. S., Blairsville, S. C.:

1. Why is porter darker than ale or beer? 2. Give the per cent. of alcohol in beer, ale, etc.

1. Because the malt of which porter is made is dried at a higher temperature, and slightly charred. 2. Small beer contains 1½ per cent.; ale, 7; porter, 4½; brown stout, 6½; Burton ale, 8½.

Enquirer, Le Claire, Ia.:

Legal documents in this and some other states commence, "State of Iowa, —— county, ss." Please inform me what these letters signify, or of what word or words are they an abbreviation?

The letters stand for *Scilicet*, meaning to wit; namely.

J. M., Pine Village, Ind.:

1. How many ex-rebels who have not had their disabilities removed? 2. Is it possible for a person to become a citizen of any state and not of the United States? (See President's message).

1. There are very few left. 2. Yes; some states permit an alien to vote as soon as he declares his intention of becoming a citizen.

F. R., Aldemathon, Wis.:

1. Is there any member of the royal family of Stuart now reigning in Europe? 2. If not, what became of the family?

1. No. 2 It would take too much space to follow the fortunes of the different members of the family. Some of the descendants are still living, and are known as lords, earls, etc.

W. C. W., Westerville, O.:

1. Where is Gen. R. E. Lee buried? 2. How are state representatives apportioned among the inhabitants? 3. State Senators?

1. Lexington, Va. 2-3 The districts are laid out by the legislatures. It is thus that the party in power sometimes resorts to "kerrymanders" the state to suit its complexion.

Reader, Sardis, O.:

1. Please give the names of two or three of the most reliable Catholic publishing houses in the United States. 2. Also the Catholic population.

1. We repeat almost weekly that we cannot publish addresses in the Bureau. If dealers, etc., wish to reach the patrons of the BLADE they must advertise in its columns. 2. About 7,000,000.

S. G., Eagleville, Cal.:

1. If a man's wife becomes insane, can he marry again without obtaining a divorce from his wife? 2. When was this expression first used: "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute"? 3. Was Mark Twain an officer in the Confederate army?

1. No. 2. By Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, of South Carolina, while minister to France, in 1796. 3. No.

L. J. S., Bozeman, M. T.:

1. Tell how to make mucilage. 2 Which of the secret orders are the strongest, Odd Fellows or Knights of Pythias?

1. If you would state for what purpose it is to be used, it would be more satisfactory. 2. household mucilage is made by dissolving gum arabic and three ounces distilled vinegar with one ounce white sugar. Instead of the distilled vinegar one part acetic acid to six parts of water may be substituted. There are numerous receipts, for different purposes. 2. Odd Fellows, we think.

J. M. C., Hurdland, Mo.:

1. What is the meaning of the saying a "Rowland for an Oliver?" 2. Who was Mephistopheles, and what did he do?

1. These two were the most famous in the list of Charlemagne's twelve peers; and their exploits were rendered so ridiculously and equally extravagant by the old romancers, that from thence arose the saying of giving one "Rowland for his Oliver," to signify the matching one incredible lie with another. 2. In old legends, the familiar spirit of the magician Faust, the second of the fallen archangels, and the most powerful chief of the infernal legions after Satan. He is chiefly known as the malignant, scoffing fiend of Goethe's "Faust."

J. D., Toledo, O.:

Why are shoemakers called Crispins, or sons of Crispin?

Crispin and Crispianus are said to have been two saints, born at Rome, from whence they traveled to Soissons, in France, to propogate the Christian religion. Not to be chargeable to others, they worked as shoemakers; but the governor of the town, discovering them to be Christians, ordered them to be beheaded, about 288. On this account the shoemakers chose them for their tutelar saints. Their day is October 25.

L. P. J. Virden, Ill.:

1. If Cleveland was to die, would Sherman become President? If so, why? if not, why? 2. Why do they not vote directly for the President, instead of for the electors?

1. By the terms of a law recently passed Sec. Bayard would become President in the event of Cleveland's death; and so on down through the cabinet, in the event of other deaths. 2. Because it is the law to vote for electors. If you do not like the law, agitate for its repeal and the adoption of a better plan.

W. S., Tyrone, N. Y.:

Please give me some instances where Grant's generalship was superior to that of Napoleon's.

It is foolish to draw parallels between Grant and Napoleon. The conditions of war are different now, with the introduction of improved arms, the use of railways for moving forces and supplies, and the use of the telegraph to keep up communication between different parts of the same army. Grant is certainly the greatest general of the present era, and it is a waste of time to attempt comparisons. What Napoleon would have done, how well he would have succeeded under modern conditions, it is impossible to say.

JOURNALISTIC ENTERPRISE.

Greeley, Bonner and Bennett.

He was an old New Yorker, and he talked with the precision of the printed page: "Would you believe it? When the *Tribune* was started it refused to publish theatrical advertisements or to chronicle the movements of players. Now it gives much space to the stage. When Mr. Bonner was pushing the *Ledger*, he bought a page in the daily, semi-weekly and weekly *Tribune*, agreeing to pay $3,000 for it. After the advertisement had appeared in the daily Mr. Greely raised the objection that it would hurt the weekly, which had a very large circulation, to allow one man to occupy so much space in it. Mr. Bonner insisted that the contract should be carried out in good faith, but Mr. Greeley was obstinate, and the matter was compromised by no charge being made for the page occupied in the daily. When Mr. Bennett, the founder of the *Herald*, heard of the transaction, he said to his trusted lieutenant, Joe Elliott, that the *Tribune* people were foolish; that no advertiser could ask for too much space at the regular rates in the *Herald*. Mr. Elliott reported his conversation to Mr. Bonner, and the proprietor of the *Ledger* quickly remarked: 'Tell Mr. Bennett that I will take eight pages of his paper.' As the *Herald* was an eight-page journal, the advertiser put in a bid for its entire space. Mr. Bennett was equal to the emergency. He put on sixteen pages, three pages of the *Ledger* advertisement going into one-half section and five into the other half. This was the first time the *Herald* ever issued a sixteen-page paper, and the feat was regarded as something wonderful. How different at the present, when more than thirty-two pages are sometimes caught and folded from the press. Sam Sinclair, the publisher of the *Tribune*, lived at that time in Twenty-eighth street, near Eighth avenue. The morning that the sixteen-page *Herald* came out he took his seat in the street car and bought a copy of Mr. Bennett's paper. When he opened the first half and saw three pages monopolized by the *Ledger*, a scowl came on his face and he tossed the sheet over his shoulder through the open window. Mr. Bonner, who had got into the same car one block higher up, was amused by Sinclair's act and he called out: 'You have thrown away the lesser part; you will find the greater in what you have kept.' Mr. Sinclair colored to the roots of his hair, and opened the sheet and was greatly surprised to see that five of the pages were given up to the *Ledger*. The fact then dawned on him that he and Greeley had made a mistake in refusing to carry out the contract with Mr. Bonner for one page in the *Tribune*. The first Sunday *Herald* was issued to get rid of the leftover matter which encumbered the galleys. It was an experiment; but it brought such good results as to lead to establishment of a regular Sunday edition of the paper. Mr. Bennett was quick to seize a point and profit by it. Now all the morning journals, including the *Tribune*, print a Sunday issue, and it is really the elaborate and most costly paper of the week. The changes in the newspaper world are marvelous to an old-timer like myself." A far-away look came into the eyes of the speaker as he uttered the last words, as if the faces of the elder Bennett, Horace Greeley, Henry J. Raymond and other journalistic stars rose before him from the mists of the past. Then he muttered something about time moving on with remorseless tread, indifferent to change, and thrust his hands into his pockets and walked away.

The Ohio Altar Mounds.

The curious discoveries in the exploration of the altar mounds in Anderson township, Ohio, says the New York *Sun*, are made all the more interesting by the fact that native gold has for the first time been found in the mounds. Among the numerous ornaments unearthed, including those of mica, shell, bears' teeth, stone, copper, iron and silver, was one small copper pendant, covered with thin sheet of gold. Other copper ornaments were covered with hammered sheets of native silver, and the hammered metal bracelets, the large spool shaped ear-rings, the terra-cotta figures revealing the peculiar methods of wearing the hair, show that the fashionable young woman of Madison square is not so far apart in ethnologic interest from the mystic maidens of the altar mounds as she might suppose. Moreover, in thousands of objects of interest obtained in these mounds there are ornaments which in point of novelty are not now rivalled, for there are car ornaments made of meteoric iron, plated with iron. A serpent cut out of mica, an animal carved from stone, three hundred astragoli of the deer and elk, apparently collected for some important reason, and unique objects in micaceous schist, obsidian chalcedony and chert were found upon these quant altars. Bit by bit, as the leafy mold is taken off the footprints of time, there seems to come out of darkness glimpses of a cultured race that passed over this continent before the North American Indians came here, burying their dead in stone boxes along the Ohio, where they are now being unearthed.

The Continents Washing Down.

In an address before the Liverpool Geological society, by Professor Reade, on "The Denudation of the Two Americas," he showed that 150,000,000 tons of matter, in solution, are annually poured into the Gulf of Mexico by the Mississippi river, and this, it is estimated, would reduce the time for the denudation of one foot of land over the whole basin—which time has hitherto been calculated solely from the matter in suspension—from one foot in 6,000 years to one foot in 4,500 years. Similar calculations applied to the La Plata, the Amazons and the St. Lawrence show that an average of 100 tons to the square mile, per annum, are removed from the whole American continent. This, it is stated, agrees with results previously arrived at by Prof. Reade in respect to Europe, from which it is inferred that the whole of the land draining into the Atlantic from America, Africa, Europe and Asia, contributes matter in solution which, if reduced to rock in two tons to the cubic yard, would equal one cubic mile every six years.

A Bird's Way of Killing Snakes.

Harry H. Chamberlain has added to his collection a fine specimen of the paisano or chapparal cock, a bird somewhat rare in this section. This was shot about forty miles below here, near Fort Sumner. He measured over two feet from end of beak to tip of tail. The paisanos are pugnacious fellows and are great snake killers. Their scheme is to find a sleeping snake and then pile cactus around it, worrying the imprisoned reptile until it impales itself on the needles. These birds feed largery on grasshoppers, too, and horned toads. In the crop of his specimen Mr. Chamberlain found two full-grown horned larks or snow birds, heads, feathers and all. Mounted with his crest erect, showing his bold red-and-blue head, the chapparal cock is a handsome specimen.—*New Mexico paper.*

The Best Climbing Plant.

C. L. Allen, a good authority, writes: "We are asked repeatedly for the best climbing-plant for the living-room, the best plant for a hanging-basket, or the most cheerful plant for winter blooming. To all these questions we reply, the common morning-glory (*Convolulus major*), the best known of all twining plants and one deserving all the praises heaped upon it. As a window plant for winter blooming it is a success, as it grows freely and produces graceful flowers in abundance. Besides, the morning-glory in the house has the advantage over those grown outside, inasmuch as their flowers remain open nearly the whole day, and, again, they are not such rampant growers as when planted in the border."

CATARRH AND BRONCHITIS CURED.

A clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Dr. J. Flynn & Co., 117 East Fifteenth street, New York, will receive the recipe free of charge.

"THE SAME AGAIN."

Some Startling Statistics Regarding the Drinking Habit.

There are 909,980 persons, adult males for the greater part, employed in the manufacture and sale of liquors in the United States. This is one to every sixty of the entire population. These men, mostly able-bodied, are taken from productive, that is to say, wealth-producing employments. They are a tax on the workers, adding no one element of prosperity to the common wealth of the nation. At the low wage which all of them could earn they would receive for the 300 working days of the year $272,994,000. Who can estimate the loss of permanent wealth that this aggregate of wages implies and suggests?

The federal statistics show that there are in the United States "600,000 persons daily incapacitated for labor by reason of liquor." This number includes the drunkards, the insane, the criminals, and paupers dragged down to these classes by the direct and recognized influence of using intoxicating drinks. At $1 a day in a year of 300 days these 600,000 persons, placed *hors du travail* by the drinking habit, could have earned $180,000,000, which, added to the other totals of money cost, and the loss of the service of the army of makers and sellers, estimating these services on the wage basis only, amount to the aggregate of $1,171,201,518 per annum.

"This vast sum," writes Mrs. Thompson, "is $23 per capita for every man, woman and child in the country. It is nearly equal to our entire gold, silver, and paper circulation combined. It would build and equip 30,000 miles of railroad; pay the cost of the public schools for fifteen years; erect and maintain 12,000 colleges; send out and support 1,200,000 missionaries; pay the entire national debt of the country, national, state and municipal, in less than four years; construct 600 first-class ocean steamers; erect and maintain 3,750 hospitals, libraries, or homes for the aged; provide one-third of the United States with homesteads of 160 acres each; run the postoffice department for thirty-four years; support the navy for seventy-five years; pay our foreign consular service for 1,725 years, purchase, at $7 a barrel, 167,327,359 barrels of flour, and pay the salary of the President of the United States for 23,425 years!"

A Farmer, a Bushel of Corn, and Two Drinks.

Do you see that man over there? Well, he's a farmer. There he goes with a friend; they're going to get a drink. The farmer will pay for it. Now, let me see. That man will sweat two mortal hours next spring to plow enough ground to raise one bushel of corn. That bushel of corn he will sell for thirty cents. He is going in there now to spend the thirty cents for two drinks. Therefore, the farmer and corn have parted. Now, let me tell you what becomes of the corn. A bushel of corn makes seventeen quarts of whisky—four-and-a-quarter gallons. The distillery gets its first profit—40 cents a gallon. There you are; $2 for a bushel of corn. Now the government comes in, 90 cents a gallon—$3.85 added to the $2 makes $5.85.

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., PUBLISHERS. | D. R. LOCKE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28.

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT TOLEDO AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

THE TOLEDO BLADE.

CHEAPEST PAPER IN THE WORLD.

LARGEST AND BEST WEEKLY PUBLISHED.

TERMS—POSTAGE PAID.

Single copy, one year, $1.00, six months, 50 cents, three months, 30 cents. Clubs of 11, one year $10—our best terms to agents for club of any size, every eleventh copy free, or the agent may retain 10 per cent. commission in cash.

SPECIMEN COPIES sent, postpaid free to any address. Send for one, and at the same time give us the address of a dozen or so of your friends. Address,

THE BLADE,
TOLEDO, O.

Circulation Last Week, 132,000.

The Most Liberal Offer Ever Made

A Good Watch for an Hour's Work.

Any person—man, woman, boy or girl—who will raise a club of TEN for the WEEKLY BLADE, at its lowest and only price, One Dollar each, will receive a warranted Waterbury Watch, free, by mail.

To secure this valuable premium, the ten names must be sent in at one time, with the price, $10. No other terms will be regarded.

Any one can raise a club of Ten for the WEEKLY BLADE anywhere, in a very little time. It is easy to get subscribers for the BLADE, for everybody ought to have it, and 200,000 families will have it this winter.

Take hold at once and get your watch. We will mail them, in every case, the day we receive the club.

We warrant every watch we send. There is no way in which a reliable time-piece can be so easily obtained.

A warranted watch for Ten yearly subscribers to the WEEKLY BLADE; or, if preferred we will send either "Nasby in Exile," or "Andersonville" in lieu of the watch

A RECENT magazine article attributed to Gen. SHERMAN the expression that had Gen. C. F. SMITH lived, Gen. GRANT would have disappeared from history. SHERMAN comes forward to say that it is impossible that he should ever have made that assertion, and adds: "I don't believe any man, living or dead, has borne more willing testimony to Gen. GRANT'S great qualities, especially as demonstrated at Henry, Donelson, Shiloh and Vicksburg, than myself."

THE testimony in the contest of the will of the late W. F. STOREY, of the Chicago *Times*, reveals the singular fact that during his closing years the veteran editor was an ardent spiritualist, and acted under the supposed "control" of an Indian girl's spirit. This fact will doubtless lend to the nullifying of the will, as it seems to be clearly shown that there was a conspiracy of certain persons with alleged "mediums" to get control of the feeble old man's property.

A REALLY stringent license bill is before the New York legislature. It provides that there shall not be more than one for every 750 of population, and in no case shall a saloon be located within 300 feet of any public institution, such as school house, church, asylum, penitentiary or navy-yard. It also provides that under a local option clause any ward of a city may prohibit the granting of a license within its limits, and has severe penalties for the sale of liquors on credit, or to minors, policemen or soldiers in uniform.

SEC. BAYARD is of extremely aristocratic tendencies. He has so often assumed to be descended from the famous Chevalier BAYARD, the French knight, "*sans peur et sans reproche*," that a writer in the *North American Review* takes the pains to investigate the matter, and shows that the Delewarean was probably descended from an old Scotchman named BAIRD; that the French chevalier was never married, and that BAYARD was not his real name, but an assumed one. If Mr. BAYARD is proud of an alleged descent that would brand him as of illegitimate blood, he should be allowed to do so.

WHILE we of America are declaiming against the evils of landlordism in Great Britain, it seems that we are adopting the system quite rapidly ourselves. Singularly enough, an English writer calls general attention to our drift in this direction, in an article in the *North American Review*. By figures from our 1880 census, and one taken since then in Great Britain, he shows that there are more tenant farmers in the United States than in the entire United Kingdom—England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland—the latter having 1,054,000, and this country 1,200,000. And he points out the additional fact that the system is increasing year by year on this side of the Atlantic.

THE new FITZ JOHN PORTER bill has been reported to the House, and that Bourbon body will undoubtedly pass it. The tug of war will come in the Senate. The bill authorizes the President to appoint FITZ JOHN PORTER to the position of Colonel in the army, and, in his discretion to place him on the retired list as of that grade, provided that FITZ JOHN PORTER shall receive no pay, compensation, or allowance whatsoever prior to his appointment under this act. The report is signed by all the Democratic members of the committee. Notice was given from the Republican side of a minority report, but it is not expected this will have any effect on the majority.

SEN. FRYE'S new shipping bill was prepared under the direction of a committee of the Maritime Exchange of New York city, and has received the endorsement of the commercial bodies of that city. It provides that every vessel, whether sail or steam, built and owned in the United States, engaged in foreign trade, shall receive a bounty of 30 cents per registered ton for every 1,000 nautical miles actually traveled, the distance to be termined by the bureau of Navigation of the Navy department. This bounty is to be continued for ten years, and for the succeeding ten years it is to be reduced one-half. Vessels receiving this bounty may be called upon at any time by the Postmaster General to carry the United States mails without additional compensation and when in foreign ports shall receive and transport any mails for the United States that may be offered them. This is the French plan for subsidizing ships and is found to have worked very successfully.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE blizzard last week has caused trade to suffer severely. The complete suspension of water transportation and the serious disturbance of all rail traffic combine to reduce the present amount of tonnage moving to comparatively moderate dimensions. Important results will be both a reduction of railroad incomes in the West and an increased outlay of money in the way of repairs. The rather general interruption of the movement of Western produce must obviously affect the distribution of merchandise, and delay collections, etc., in the country affected.

THERE is a very slight decrease in the number of mercantile failures for the past week, but the totals are very large, even if they do not exceed those of 1885 and 1884. The losses are relatively heavy in the West and South.

IT is believed in Washington that the President will promptly veto any silver bill not in accord with his utterances in his message.

A BILL was introduced in the House Thursday to enable the people of the whole of Dakota to form a constitution and state government.

GEN. SHERIDAN thinks the military features of the meteorological portion of the Signal Service will soon be eliminated. The signalizing belongs to the army, the weather predictions to the whole country.

THE forthcoming report of the Civil Service commission will reveal some facts which deserve to be taken into consideration by our public school authorities. Seventy per cent. of the successful candidates are recent graduates from the public schools, and of these a very large percentage are deficient in their knowledge of the ordinary rules of syntax, and while they show proficiency in geography, history and other branches or learning, they have not been able to write a simple business letter correctly.

THE situation in the English Parliament is the most interesting foreign matter at present. Briefly it is this: The Tories will allow no concessions to Ireland, therefore the present ministry will go out as soon as there is some side issue which will permit it without bringing hostility to Ireland too prominently before the country. Mr. GLADSTONE will then go into power with a distinct understanding with Mr. PARNELL that he will support measures looking towards an Irish Parliament, in return. That he will be able to whip his party into line is certain, for already some of the leaders who have been opposed have yielded to his opinions.

THE Queen's speech was anything but conciliatory to the friends of Ireland. Her words gave no promise of a cessation of agitation or of the allaying of bitter feeling, but were rather calculated to intensify the indignation and purposes of the Irish people. They are regarded as expressing not only the purposes of the Tory government, but her own private convictions.

MR. GLADSTONE has, at last, arrived at the correct way of dealing with the Irish question. The great source of weakness in all English attempts to legislate for Ireland has been the lack of cooperation with the representatives of the island. The English cannot succeed in disposing of the Irish question until they are ready to accept Irish aid. When Mr. GLADSTONE appealed to the country for a majority large enough to settle the Irish question without interference from Mr. PARNELL he was illogical. Now, however, when he brings the Liberals and Parnellites into working order, he is doing the right thing. The Irish people should have a voice in the settlement of matters that concerns them so vitally.

LONDON is fearing a renewal of dynamite outrages and the police authorities are taking extraordinary precautions against them by doubling guards around the public buildings and wherever there is reason to apprehend any attempt to use explosives. It is to be hoped that it is as some declare it to be, only an attempt to further discredit the Irish question before the Parliamant and people, for anything of that kind would dispel all hopes of home rule for a long time to come.

THE great railway tunnel under the river Mersey, England, connecting the city of Liverpool with Birkenhead, was formally opened Monday by the Prince of Wales. The tunnel is between three and four miles in length.

THE European outlook becomes more and more warlike, and the probability grows greater that the opening of spring will see an outbreak. The Servians are smarting under their repulse, and ready to renew the struggle; the Bulgarians, flushed with success, are ready to try conclusions again; Turkey is vigorously preparing for war, while peppery little Greece is hungry for a shindy, in the hope of enlarging her borders. Then Russia has began pushing forward in the trans-Caspian country, and the whole situation smells of powder.

THE Prussian government, it is said, has determined to Germanize the Polish provinces, and to that end is going to buy large estates and parcel them out to German peasants, and also to establish many schools where the German language shall be taught.

THE outlook in the East during the last week has been somewhat more warlike owing to the attiude of Greece, who objects to the union of Bulgaria and Roumelia, and is determined to fight rather than to submit. She has been continuing her preparations for war ever since she sent in her protest to the Powers some weeks ago, and is now ready or apparently so, to defend what she believes to be her rights. She has long expected when Turkey should be dismembered, that a large part of Epirus, Thessaly and Macedonia in which most of the population is Greek would revert to her. With the maintainance of an equilibrium in the Balkan states she might bide her time, but with the defeat of Servia and the establishment of a powerful Balkan state like Bulgaria as a consequent, her claims would be poor, hence her present attitude. There has been also a rumor that Prussia is preparing to occupy Bulgaria, and Austria to march into Servia, and another that Russia has asked the Powers to unite in sending another summons to Greece and Servia to disarm.

A REFORM has been effected in the government of Japan by the abolition of the Council of State and the offices of prime ministers, and the formation of a responsible cabinet, consisting of the chiefs of departments, with one of their number as president of the cabinet.

JUDGE BREWER'S DECISION.

From one end of the country to the other there has gone up a shout of joy from the Rum Power and its servile minions of the press, over a decision rendered a few days ago by United States District Judge BREWER, of Kansas, They proclaim in joyous accents that Prohibition has received a serious setback, that an obstacle has been thus raised that will be difficult or impossible to overcome, and, in effect, that the continued reign of the Rum Power is assured.

We do not find warrant for such extravagant expressions of joy in the decision alluded to. The following are the facts in the case: JOHN WALDRUFF is a brewer at Lawrence, Kansas, who erected a brewery, of which the total value—building, machinery and business—is worth $50,000. When it was established, brewing was not an illegal business in the state. In 1881 the prohibitory amendment to the state constitution was adopted, and laws thereunder were passed by the legislature in 1881 and 1885, which statutes allow beer to be manufactured for "medicinal, scientific and mechanical purposes." WALDRUFF applied for a permit to do so, which was denied. An injunction was obtained in the state district court absolutely enjoining him from the manufacture, and he took an appeal to the United States district court. Judge BREWER'S decision, in substance, amounts to this:

He holds that no state can, either by legislation or constitutional amendment, prohibit the manufacture of liquor without paying for the private property thereby destroyed or injured; that such a law or amendment is in conflict with the constitution of the United States, which declares that no person shall "be deprived of * * * property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation;" that the refusal to allow WALDRUFF to continue brewing was, in effect, to deprive him of $45,000 of property, as the old brewery shell, of itself, is worth not over $5,000 for any other purpose; that vested rights of property cannot be destroyed for the public good without compensation; and, finally, and perhaps a debatable point, that to debar a man by statute or amendment from the use of his property for the public weal is a taking of private property for public use, because it is the power to use, and not the mere title which gives value to property.

Judge BREWER expressly stated that he does not question the power of the state to prohibit the manufacture, and that no one would be entitled to damages who should erect a brewery or go into the business after a law was passed or a constitutional amendment adopted prohibiting the manufacture. In his own words:

> All that I hold is that property within the meaning of that amendment includes both the title and the right to use. That when the right to use in a given way is vested in a citizen it cannot be taken from him for the public good without compensation. Beyond any doubt the state can prohibit defendants from continuing their business of brewing, but before it can do so, it must pay the value of the property destroyed. Nothing that I have said in this opinion is to be taken as bearing on the question of the sale of beer or the power of the state over that. Counsel claimed that the right to manufacture, without the right to sell, was a barren right. Whatever limitations may exist in this state the markets of the world are open, and with such markets the right to manufacture is far from a barren right.

Should this decision stand, its effect will be simply that any state which prohibits the manufacture of any liquor will have to pay the value of the breweries and distilleries erected before the law was passed, which are shut up by its operations. It is said that the case will be taken to the Supreme court of the United States, the court of final resort, to have it finally decided.

"Supposing the decision stands, what is to be done?" asks a Prohibition friend. "Pay the value of the breweries and distilleries, or let them go on manufacturing, and see that they only sell to parties outside the state?"

There can be but one answer: *Pay for them* and shut up forever these breathing-holes of hell! Seal up eternally these fountains from which flow streams of poison to destroy your fellow men!

Pay for them, and burn the accursed structures, with all their machinery and equipments for supplying mankind with liquid damnation!

Pay for them, and wipe out these plague-spots upon the face of the green earth—remove these death-breeding ulcers from the body politic!

"But look at the cost! Think of the sum the state will have to pay for this property!"

The total amount paid out by the people of any state in one year for alcoholic drinks is more than the entire valuation of every distillery and brewery within its boundaries. Is it not the part of wisdom to forever stop the manufacture of drunkards, stop the evolution of crime and pauperism—and by the same act remove the cause that is filling our jails and penitentiaries with criminals, our poor-houses with paupers, our insane and idiot asylums with the victims of the drink habit and their sin-cursed offspring?

There is no other way to do, if the Supreme court at Washington shall support the decision that the constitution of the United States, through a provision that was adopted for a far different purpose, is a league with death and a compact with hell, in that it gives protection to the manufacture of alcoholic poisons. Pay for the distilleries and breweries, destroy them, and another great step will be taken in the effort to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

ALTHOUGH Nashville labored earnestly to have that city chosen as the place of the annual meeting of the Grand Army of the Republic for 1886, San Francisco was chosen. While the G. A. R. will be entertained most lavishly and hospitably by the Pacific coast people, and while we have not a word to say against the selection, we wish to express the opinion that Nashville should, on many accounts, be chosen for the 1887 meeting-place. It is central in location, and the expense of reaching it will be much less than many other points; its close proximity to the sites of many hotly contested fields would make it particularly interesting; and last, but by no means least, is the fact that the entertainment offered is at the hands of those who were once hostile to the cause which the Grand Army represents, and a meeting at Nashville would aid in cementing the bonds which unite the two sections for which entertainers and guests respectively fought so gallantly.

THE lowest thermometric reading yet reported this winter was on Friday, at St. Vincent, Minn.—57° below zero.

THE NORFOLK NAVY-YARD OUTRAGE.

A few days ago, a most extraordinary scene took place at Washington, that makes the average citizen wonder whether we are really living under the United States government, and whether the rebel confederacy is not alive again and in full control of the nation. The Naval Affairs committee has a resolution before it asking the secretary of the Navy whether it is true that Union soldiers have been discharged by the commandant, Commodore TRUXTON, from the Norfolk navy-yard and their places filled with rebel soldiers; and also whether it is true that memorials of Union victories in the Norfolk navy-yard have been defaced or obliterated. No loyal citizen of the country can object to a query like this. To object to it is not only to suggest that the disgraceful charges are true, but also to admit that the outrages complained of are justifiable.

Mr. HEWITT, of New York, voiced the mudsill feeling of the subservient Northern Bourbons, when he answered the indignant complaint of loyal Congressmen by asking them whether they would have "tolerated a Confederate monument commemorating the victory of Bull Run!" Mr. THOMAS promptly answered the impudent suggestion by saying that such a monument would be torn down, as it undoubtedly would.

This and similar utterances by Democratic time-servers in the House proves that the old rebel sentiment is still dominant among many of the leaders of the Democracy; that they have accepted the conclusions of the war unwillingly and from necessity; that their sympathies, today, are as strongly with the lost cause as they were in the days of the war. Mr. HEWITT not only sees no difference between honors done to rebel successes and those done to the Union cause, but he is ready to deface the Union mementoes and dismiss the winners of Union victories to make way for rebel monuments and rebel soldiers. This is precisely Mr. HEWITT'S position, and he is the Democratic chairman of the committee on Naval affairs.

Just what has been done at the Norfolk Navy Yard the country will soon know. Should the Democratic House refuse to ask for the information, the Republican Senate will assuredly repeat the demand and it will have to be answered. The behavior of the Democrats in the House Naval committee, indicates that the charges are true, and that these outrages upon the honor of the country have been committed under the approval of the Navy department. It is scarcely conceivable that any officer of the United States navy would be guilty of such outrages except under the direct sanction or orders of his department. The Congressional inquiry into the matter is an eminently proper one, and it presents a crucial test of the genuineness of every member's loyalty which cannot be evaded. There is no room for any of the wish-washy talk about "burying the hatchet" and "conciliating the South" when it comes to this sort of practical dishonor put upon the victories of the Union and the brave fellows who won them. If a Democratic administration and Democratic Congressmen choose to re-open the settled issues of the war, it is their responsibility and their fault, and they alone will suffer by it.

CLEVELAND AND THE SENATE.

The attitude of the Senate and of the President, respectively, respecting removals, is as follow: The Senate stands upon the ground that when an appointment is made to an office whose incumbent's present term of office has not yet expired, the confirmation of that appointment acts as a confirmation of the removal of the official displaced; that it is proper that the reasons for the removal should be given, that the Senate may act intelligently on the new nomination, to confirm which is to endorse the removal; and this is coupled with an assurance that if the removal is made simply because the incumbent is a Republican it will be endorsed—but that the President must not act hypocritically in the matter. He has declared numberless times that competent officials will not be removed for partisan purposes before their terms expire, and in the face of these assurances the wholesale removals cast the stigma of incompetency or improper conduct upon two or three thousand decapitated officials.

The President declares that he will assign no reasons for removals, on the ground that the Senate has no right to ask for them.

CLEVELAND is famous for his obstinacy, and the end of the struggle it is impossible to foresee. The pressure of public opinion may drive him to comply, but it is doubtful. We quote the following from GATH'S letter to the Cincinnati *Enquirer* on this subject:

> There have been few working days at the Capitol in either House or Senate, and yet the executive government is already antagonized. In the Senate the proposition is advanced that the President's bull-headedness shall be amenable to law. With his corporal's guard of mugwump editors, he is discovering morals for everybody else and privileges for himself. The public can now see how this amateur form of government is going to come out. The Senate is the legislative link between Congress and the executive, and if it should develop between the two parties fixed hostility to the President he could not have his nominations confirmed anywhere. What, then, is he going to depend on? They say public opinion; but what is that? It certainly is not the saying over and over of the same thing by a few printers who copy from each other until they mutually resolve that they are public opinion. The attitude of the two parties in the Senate is chivalric; they say that if the President removes Republicans as Republicans he will be indorsed, but he must not remove them hypocritically, thereby putting a stigma on partisans as if they had been unworthy of their places.

THE English "Financial Reform Almanac" for 1886 contains much useful information. In England and Wales 710 persons own one-fourth of the entire country; in Scotland 12 persons own one-fourth; and in Ireland 754 persons own one-half. Now contrast this with Prussia. There are there only 108 landowners who have estates that are sufficiently large to be rated at £1,500 a year. In the whole country there are only 18,197 properties exceeding 400 acres each; there are 15,048 owners of between 200 to 400 acres; 289,823 of between 20 to 200; 609,828 of between 3½ acres and 20; and 1,087,081 of under 3½ acres. These figures do not include residential sites or house gardens. Thus, in lieu of an agglomeration of land in the hands of a few persons, over a million of well-to-do Prussians thrive upon holdings of less than 3½ acres.

THE Cotton Exchange at Galveston has decided that hereafter only $10 in silver shall be received at one time as a deposit, and that when over that sum is offered at one time ¼ of 1 per cent discount shall be charged. The silver men should note these signs of the times.

THE OHIO SENATE.

The silly and somewhat revolutionary character of the attempts made by the Democrats in the Ohio Senate to prevent any attempt to investigate the notorious Hamilton county election frauds is proof conclusive to the mind of every honest man that they dare not allow the investigation to be held if it can possibly be prevented. It is presumptive proof of Democratic guilt; for if frauds were committed in behalf of the Republican ticket, would not they be eager to have the opportunity of showing them up?

It will not do to make the weak excuse that a fair investigation will not be held. The Senate will sit as a court to hear all the testimony offered, or that can be obtained, concerning these frauds. The Democratic press has been wildly charging that great Republican corruption and trickery existed at the polls in that county in October. The Republicans have made the same charge concerning Democratic ballot-box stuffing, altering tally sheets and poll-books. The Republicans of the Senate desire an investigation. The Democrats do not. Any evidence they can bring will be duly weighed, and the Senate is a Democratic body at present. Why these wild efforts to prevent an investigation, if the Democrats do not know that it will result in exposing the most damnable of conspiracies to defeat the will of a free people as expressed at the polls? It is simply a confession of guilt.

GEN. HALLECK.

Gen. LEW. WALLACE, in a recent interview, was very severe upon Gen. HALLECK. He even declared that, in his heart of hearts, HALLECK was disloyal, to the extent that he would have allowed Washington city to fall into the hands of the rebels in order to crush GRANT, which catastrophe was only averted by WALLACE'S holding the enemy at bay at the Monocacy river, and by communicating with Grant, who was at City Point, without allowing HALLECK to know what was going on.

Whatever of truth there may be in this, it is certain that no one can peruse Gen. GRANT'S first volume of memoirs without being forced to the conclusion that HALLECK'S conduct during that most trying period of the war does not entitle him to that respect of the friends of the Union cause. His treatment of GRANT, after the victories at Forts Henry and Donelson, and through to the end of the Vicksburg campaign, shows him to have been either incompetent or cowardly, or else animated by envy and selfishness. In either case he was an unfit man for the position he held, and it is easy to see that had HALLECK been in accord with the ideas of GRANT and the generals who won undying fame under him, the Western campaigns would have been much shorter, and many of the bloodiest and least decisive battles would never have been fought. It is a singular fact that there is not one Union commander who has written or spoken of him in public who either accords him the credit of being a good general, or will allow him to have been wise or unselfish. WALLACE'S interview must provoke a discussion which will throw much light upon HALLECK'S career.

BOOKS.

Since making reduction in prices of "Andersonville" and "Nasby in Exile," our sales of these books have been enormous. Our bound stock will soon be exhausted, and very likely we shall soon withdraw the advertisement until the coming fall. Every reader of the BLADE should order one each of these books, as they are a marvel of cheapness.

THE New York *Sun* publishes a letter from a New Haven man which says:

> I have received a letter from the publishers of James G. Blaine's "Twenty Years in Congress," in which the following passage occurs:
>
> "You will perhaps be pleased to know that Mr. Blaine in his second volume takes strong ground in favor of silver coinage."

We think it probable that Mr. BLAINE is in favor of silver coinage, after increasing the amount of silver in the standard dollar. In 1878, when the BLAND bill was pending, he offered and advocated a substitute making the proposed dollar 425 grains standard silver instead of 412½ grains, and providing further that the assistant treasurer at New York should receive silver bars for their stamped value, which should be their coinage rate, and should issue there for coin certificates redeemable in coin or stamped bars. In other words, Mr. BLAINE favored the unlimited issue of silver on the basis of 425 grains of standard silver as the measure of a dollar. He no doubt has the same views still, save that he desires a dollar's worth of silver in the dollar.

REAGAN, of Texas, who was a member of JEFF DAVIS'S rebel cabinet, had the cheek Thursday to air his Bourbon views on the subject of pensions to Union soldiers. He wants only soldiers actually disabled while in service, or their wives at that time, to receive pensions. He would ignore the fact that thousands of brave men had the seeds of suffering and death implanted in their systems by three years of exposure in camp and field, and are as justly entitled to pensions as those wounded in battle. He characterized pension legislation as "a bid for the vote of the soldiers."

THE late cold wave, which invaded the Gulf states, lasted for about six days, and at some localities—New Orleans, for instance—the thermometer reached a lower point than ever before since the settlement of Louisiana, 200 years ago. The damage to the orange crop is considerable, but later reports are more hopeful regarding the trees themselves, as it is now thought that the older trees are not much damaged, though the young ones are destroyed. The orange crop, it is said, is not seriously affected.

THIS is the season of the year when newspaper subscriptions are expiring. We ask our subscribers to be prompt in renewing, so as not to miss a number of the BLADE, and to send in another name with their own. Thousands are doing this, and we want thousands more to imitate their example. Renew in time, and induce your neighbor to remit with you

THE bill increasing the pensions of widows and relatives from $8 to $10 per month seems to have a good prospect of passing. The annual increase of expenditures by this measure would be about $15,000,000. There are several propositions pending to repeal the limitation clause of the arrearages act.

REP. RANKIN, of Wisconsin, died at Washington on Sunday. He was one of the Democratic leaders in that state.

THE NEW BILL FOR REGULATING INTER-STATE COMMERCE.

The result of the investigation which has been conducted since the adjournment of the Forty-eighth Congress by the Senate select committee on Inter-state Railroad transportion are embodied in the report of the committee, and the accompanying bill, which has been submitted by Sen. CULLOM to the Senate. The committee in the work of investigation kept before them two questions: first, whether any legislation for the regulation of inter-state transportation is necessary or expedient, and, secondly, if so, in what manner can the public interest best be subserved by legislation on this subject. The committee, in answering the first question in the affirmative, says:

> That a problem of such magnitude, importance and intricacy can be summarily solved by any master stroke of legislative wisdom is beyond the bounds of reasonable belief. That the railroads, unaided or restrained, can or will eventually work its solution, seems highly improbable, judging from past experience, and cannot reasonably be expected. That a satisfactory solution of the problem can ever be secured without the aid of wise legislation the committee does not believe.

The committee states that the essence of the complaints against the railroads are based principally upon the practice of discrimination. It declares that publicity is the best remedy for unjust discrimination, and recommends the posting of rates under the direction of a commission. The second question suggested by the committee, it answers in the bill which it submits. This is aimed at unjust discriminations. After specifying the class of carriers, or rather the kinds of traffic to which the regulations prescribed are to apply, and declaring that all charges made by such carriers shall be reasonable, the preliminary sections of the bill aim to prohibit every variety of unjust discrimination, to provide adequate penalties therefor, and to prescribe for their enforcement in the courts of the United States.

These sections include the requirement that all carriers shall afford reasonable facilities for the interchange of traffic with connecting lines, and the prohibition of a greater charge for a shorter than for a longer distance, except when it can be affirmatively established by the carrier that such charge does not constitute an unjust discrimination. Another important section requires all carriers subject to the provisions of the bill to file their tariffs and classifications with the Inter-state Commerce commission, and provides that they shall be posted or otherwise, published, but leaves to be determined the manner of publication and the places at and between which rates shall be published.

Provision is made for the enforcing of the requirements of the commission in these respects through the courts, and for the maintenance of the rates that may be thus published. Provision is also made for the appointment by the President of five commissioners, to be confirmed by the Senate, and several sections are devoted to prescribing the duties of the commissioners and the manner in which complaints are to be investigated and prosecutions instituted under its direction when found necessary.

Under these sections it is proposed to give the commission full power to obtain all information necessary to the performance of its duties, to constitute a board of arbitration for the adjudication of such differences between shippers and carriers as can be amicably settled through its intervention; to move its findings of fact *prima facie* evidence in all legal proceedings, and to provide for the prompt enforcement of its recommendations through the courts if resort to them should become necessary. Not more than three of the commissioners shall be members of the same political party, and they are to be given an annual salary of $7,500 each. The bill submitted is certainly a most carefully considered one, and is in every respect an improvement on those heretofore proposed in Congress.

THE recent appearance of a new island in one of the Pacific ocean groups illustrates the fact that hundreds of geographers and surveyors have all that they can do to keep their work abreast of the never-ending physical changes of the earth's surface. Great Britain employes ten ships and 600 men in its admiralty surveys, and much of their work consists in making new charts of waters that were carefully surveyed from ten to 30 years ago. New surveys along the east and west coasts of England last year, showed that important changes in depths and other features have occurred since the previous surveys. Navigation charts are likely after ten or twelve years to be valueless from the continual changes in the earth's crust.

THE iron manufacturers of Russia, who have suffered in common with those of all other countries from the trade depression, have petitioned the Czar for regulations to give home manufacturers the home market. They ask that this year's importation of pig iron be limited to 180,000 tons, and that each year hereafter this limit shall be reduced 15 per cent. of the original amount until importation shall finally be extinguished. This would bring about total prohibition in twelve years, and the practical extinction of foreign competition almost immediately. It is said the government looks with favor on the scheme.

THE wild assertions of free trade shriekers that there are hundreds of thousands of workmen idle because there is no work for them to do are thoroughly negatived by the *Bulletin* of the American Iron and Steel association, which has been making an investigation into the facts. It finds that during last spring and winter, in the time of worst depression, the unemployed for whom there was no labor never amounted to a hundred thousand, and that now there is "no noticeable lack of employ." It leaves out of its calculation all strikers, but enumerates only those who are idle because there is no work for them to do.

THE old plan in the palmy days of slave rule was to admit one territory as a free state and another as a slave state at the same time, so as to preserve the balance of power in the Senate, that the "sacred institution" might be preserved. Slavery is gone, but Bourbonism has taken its place. The same policy seems about to be inaugurated again, and to couple Republican Dakota and Democratic Montana together and admit both, that the supremacy of Bourbonism, attained by the union of the Solid South with the slums of New York city, may be maintained.

THE Pope, who has been ailing for so long a time, is now declared better, but will probably never be a well man again.

AN INTERESTING DECISION.

Mr. SPARKS, Commissioner of the General Land office, has made an important decision regarding the claims of the Northern Pacific railroad company to a grant of land between a point on the Columbia river near Portland, Oregon, and Tacoma, on Puget Sound, in Washington Territory. The commissioner says the road between these points was authorized to be constructed by a joint resolution of Congress in 1869 without a land grant. The original act of 1864 provided for a main line of road across the Cascade Mountains to Puget Sound, and a branch from a point not more than 300 miles east of the western terminus, passing down the Columbia river to a point at or near Portland, Oregon, but made no provision for a road or grant between Portland and Puget Sound. The railroad company lay claim to a grant of this portion of the road under the joint resolution of Congress of 1870, which provided that the company might construct its main line down the Columbia river and its branch across the Cascades, with the same grants as provided for the original act of incorporation. Commissioner SPARKS holds that as no grant was made by the original act for the construction of the road from Portland to Tacoma and none by the act of 1869, no such grant can be presumptively drawn from the joint resolution of 1870. He holds that no such grant was made by any of the acts of Congress, and says that he does not find any formal decision has ever been made by the Interior department, holding that the joint resolution of 1870 embraced a grant of lands between said points. Although withdrawals appear to have been ordered upon the filing by the company of its maps, the commissioner says no reasons for such withdrawals have ever been assigned so far as the records of the Land office disclose. The magnitude of the interests involved in this case, which presents so many interesting points, may be seen from the fact that the decision affects the odd-numbered sections of land 80 miles in width for a distance of 106 miles, aggregating some two and a half million acres, and estimated to be worth $25,000,000. The claim of the railroad company to the lands has long been disputed by settlers. The decision of the Land commissioner is to be contested by the company, however, and there is a prospect of tedious and costly litigation.

CLUB AGENTS.

It is now the season of the year to raise clubs for the BLADE, and we want an agent at every postoffice in the United States. *We pay this year the largest cash commission to club agents of any paper in the United States.* Write for our terms to agents. There is no paper published that so many people want and none for which it is so easy to raise clubs. Send for our terms to agents and make a dollar or two in an hour.

JUDGE STALLO, of Cincinnati, the new minister to Italy, has made a figure of himself, if all reports are to be believed. It is said that he was present at a dinner party given by Dr. DELAMATER, a well-known American dentist in Rome; he found that the Pope's chamberlain was present, and abruptly left the table and house of his host. He subsequently explained his unmannerly conduct by alleging that his instructions were to the effect that he was to "hold no relations with the Vatican." It is incredible that Judge STALLO should give such a reason for an insult to his host and the assembled guests. How could sitting at a table, in a private house, and as a fellow guest with one of the Pope's household, be considered as holding diplomatic relations with the Vatican? The only explanation seems to be that STALLO, who is a strong infidel, was angry at being near a high Catholic dignitary.

THE United States Supreme court has rendered a decision of much importance to commercial travelers. SAMUEL A. WALLING, a drummer for a Chicago firm, sold liquors in wholesale quantities in Michigan without having procured a license, as required by the statutes of that state. He was indicted, tried, convicted and fined, electing to suffer imprisonment rather than pay the fine. The cause was appealed to the Circuit court and affirmed and then taken to the Supreme court of Michigan and again affirmed. Thence it went up to the Supreme court of the United States, where the decisions of the courts below were reversed, Justice BRADLEY delivering the opinion that a discriminating tax imposed by a state operating to the disadvantage of the products of other states, when introduced in the first-mentioned state, is, in effect, a regulation in restraint of commerce among the states, and as such is a usurpation of the power conferred by the constitution upon the Congress of the United States.

A SUBSCRIBER of the BLADE at Bronson, Kansas, writes:

> Will you please to tell your readers why you say that the public debt has not been reduced any, while the President, in his address to Congress, states that the debt has been reduced so and so?

We fear our Kansas friend has not read the BLADE attentively. What we have said, and what we still say, is that, up to the date of the late bond call for $10,000,000, not one penny of the bonded debt of the country was paid, and the interest burden, which equals the debt every 24 years, had not been reduced. A great deal of the alleged payment of the debt has been a mere juggling with the question by means of MANNING'S new form of stating the debt; the rest has been the payment of the government's liabilities not bearing interest.

THE most remarkable advertisement we have seen for a long time is the following, from the financial columns of the New York *Herald:*

> A committee, consisting of the Right Honorable Lord Penzance, the Hon. Thos. C. Bruce, M. P., John Eldon Corst, esq., Q. C., M. P.; John R. Martin, esq., and Robert Stewart, esq., has been appointed in London to act as trustees for the Confederate bondholders. In view of solicited action by the Congress of the United States, persons holding such bonds, wherever situated, are requested to send to William F. Moore, esq., care of Hon. William Fullerton, of counsel, 18 Exchange place, New York city, their names and the number of bonds held by them respectively, giving amounts, dates of issue and number of coupons attached to each bond.

The query arises, what does this committee want with this information? Is there to be an effort made to have the United States recoup the English sympathizers with the rebels who invested their money in these bonds, to be used in the effort to dismember the Union?

EX-PRES. ARTHUR has grown tired of private life, it is said, and now desires to succeed WARNER MILLER in the United States Senate.

CURRENT EVENTS.

J. B. Oliver, prominent Milwaukee wheat trader, has failed.——Thirty dogs, supposed to be infected with rabies virus, were killed in the public square at Vandalia, Mo.——The Ohio Legislature will be asked for a special appropriation of $125,000 for the enlargement of Longview asylum.——An employe of Mrs. A. T. Stewart has obtained $45,000 damages for injuries sustained in falling from a farm elevator——Charles H. Robb, founder of the town of Ashland, Kas., was killed in a street fight.——The board of directors of the Northern Pacific railroad let the contract for the tunnel, two miles in length, through the Cascade mountains. It will cost $800,000, and is to be completed by May, 1888.——William Sheehan, who murdered his mother, sister and brother to obtain possession of some property, was hanged at Cork, Ireland, Friday.——Up to date the Chicago city collector has issued 2,309 saloon licenses for the present period.——In his first lecture on "Evolution," Prof. Dana, of Yale, held that no student should doubt the truth of the creation as related in the Bible.——The Mexico *Two Republics* has discovered a Mormon agent in the Mexican capital for the purpose of promoting schemes of Mormon settlement upon a large scale in that country——Nine thousand New York cigarmakers are idle on a strike. Throughout the country there are about 17,000 members of the association, and there are funds to sustain the strike for perhaps six months. The union pays striking members $5 a week.——Two prudent Swiss Swiss brothers named Noble are the richest men in Russia. They bought immense tracts of oil lands and now control, it is said, more petroleum than the Standard Oil company. There is no way of computing their wealth, which has been estimated as high as $400,000,000.——Gen. McClellan's private papers are said to contain a dispatch he sent from Washington to Halleck, at St. Louis, asking: "Where is Grant?" meaning, "What is the position of Grant's army?" Halleck replied: "In answer to your question, I would say, Grant is somewhere in the rear of his army, drunk." McClellan did not put these dispatches on the War department files.——An increase of $6,000,000 in the capital stock of the Missouri Pacific railroad is proposed.——It is said to be settled that Gen. Crook is not to be removed as commander of the department of Arizona, to make room for Gen. Miles. Crook is believed to be the best Indian fighter in the business.——The population of Berlin would not seem to be a very wealthy one. The population is a million and a quarter. Incomes between £5,000 and £10,000 are credited to 108 individuals; eighteen persons have incomes up to £15,000; five up to £20,000; nine up to £27,000, and four persons exceed this sum. The great mass average less than £160 annually.——Tiffin, O., has struck a strong natural gas well.——The Kansas legislature has convened in extra session.——The next year's supply of ice for the Ohio penitentiary, about 500 tons, has been contracted for at a little above a dollar a ton.——Action has been brought by a citizen to recover the land on which the city building and market-house of Chillicothe, O., are situated.——Recently, in the town of Vincennes, Ind., Harry Posey and Charlotte Thompson, who had been a ravishing beauty in her time, were married after a separation of 46 years. They had been lovers in youth, but quarreled and went separate ways, never seeing each other in the period that intervened.——The fifth and last game of the chess tournament at New York was won Wednesday by Dr. Zukertort in 3¾ hours. The next games will be played at St. Louis, beginning January 29.——An English statistician shows that since 1793 wars among the civilized have caused the death of 4,470,000 men. A large majority of these deaths resulted from wounds, hardships, and disease, the number actually killed on the field being comparatively small. The bloodiest battle in the period named was Borodina, where 250,000 men were engaged and 17,000 were placed hors du combat.——Reports from the Hillsboro (Ill.) section are to the effect that peach trees have been killed by the intense cold.——An automatic nail machine has been invented at Boston, which, if it can perform the work claimed for it, will solve the wage question forever.——William Sterner, aged 85, one of the oldest foreign residents of California, died there lately. He had been noted for his great physical strength, and a few

CLANDESTINE MARRIAGES.

Talmadge's Sermon on Sunday on the Miseries Which Follow Secret Marriages.

The subject of Dr. Talmadge's sermon was "Clandestine Marriages and Escapades," and the text, Proverbs ix. 17 and 18: "Stolen waters are sweet, and bread taken in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there." The preacher said:

The garden of Eden was a great orchard of fruit-bearing trees, bushels and bushels of round, ripe, glorious fruit, but the horticulturist and his wife having it in charge bankered for one special tree simply because it was forbidden, starting a bad streak in human nature, so that children will now sometimes do something simply because they are forbidden to do it. This kink in the human race is not easily unsnarled. Tell a company they may look into any twenty rooms of a large house except one, and their chief desire is to see that one, though all the others were picture galleries and that a garret.

If there were in a region of mineral springs twenty fountains, but the proprietor had fenced in one well against the public, the one fenced in would be the chief temptation to the visitors, and they would rather taste of that than of the other nineteen. Solomon recognized this principle in the text, and also in the disasters that follows forbidden conduct, when he said: "Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there."

In this course of sermons on "The Marriage Ring," I, this morning, aim a pointblank shot at "Clandestine Marriages and Escapades." Your ear comes up through the narrows of New York harbor a ship having all the evidence of tempestuous passage; salt-water mark reaching to the top of the smokestack. Mainmast, foremast, mizzen mast twisted off. Bulwarks knocked in. Lifeboats off the davits. Jib-sheets and lee bowlines missing. Captain's bridge demolished. Main shaft broken. All the pumps working to keep from sinking before they can get to wharfage. That ship is the institution of Christian marriage, launched by the Lord grandly from the banks of the Euphrates, and floating out on the sea for the admiration and happiness of all nations. But Freeloveism struck it from one side, and Mormonism struck it from another side, and hurricanes of libertinism have struck it on all sides, until the old ship needs repairs in every plank, and beam, and sail, and bolt, and clamp, and transom, and stanchion.

In other words, the notions of modern society must be reconstructed on the subject of the marriage institution. And when we have got it back somewhere near what it was when God built it in Paradise, the earth will be far on toward the resumption of paradisiacal conditions. Do you ask what is the need of a course of sermons on this subject? The man or woman who asks this question is either ignorant or guilty. In New England, which has been considered by many the most moral part of the United States, there are two thousand divorces per year. And in Massachusetts, the headquarters of steady habits, there is one divorce to every fourteen marriages. The state of Maine, considered by many almost frigid in proprieties, has in one year 475 divorces. In Vermont swapping wives is not a rare transaction. In Connecticut there are women who boast that they have been four or five times divorced. Moreover, our boasted Protestantism is, on this subject, more lax than Roman Catholicism. Roman Catholicism admits of no divorce except the reason that Christ admitted as a lawful reason. But Protestantism is admitting anything and everything, and the larger the proportion of Protestants in any part of the country, the larger the ratio of divorce. Do you not then think that Protestantism needs more toning up on this subject?

Aye, when you realize that the sacred and divine institution is being caricatured and defamed by clandestine marriages and escapades all over the land, does there not seem call for such discussion? Hardly a morning or an evening paper comes into your possession, without reporting them, and there are fifty of these occurrences where one is reported, because it is the interest of all parties to hush them up. The victims are, all hours of the night, climbing down ladders or crossing over from state to state, that they may reach laws of greater laxity, holding receptions six months after marriage to let the public know for the first time that a half year before they were united in wedlock. Ministers of religion, and justices of the peace, and mayors of cities willingly joining in marriage runaways from other states and neighborhoods; the coach box and the back seat of the princely landau in flirtation; telegrams flashing across the country for the arrest of absconded school misses who started off with an armful of books, and taking rail trains to meet their affianced;—in the snow drifts of the great storm on that has recently passed over the country some of them, I read, have perished;—thousands of people in a marriage whose banns have never been published; precipitated conjugality; bigamy triumphant; marriage a joke; society blotched all over with putrefaction on this subject, which no one but the almighty God can arrest.

We admit that clandestinity and escapade are sometimes authorized and made right by parental tyranny or domestic serfdom. There have been exceptional cases where parents have had a monomania in regard to their sons and daughters, demanding their celibacy or forbidding relations every way right. Through absurd family ambition parents have sometimes demanded qualifications and equipment of fortune unreasonable to expect or simply impossible. Children are not expected to marry to please their parents, but to please themselves. Given good morals, means of a livelihood, appropriate age and quality of social position, and no parent has a right to prohibit a union that seems deliberate and a matter of the heart.

Rev. Philip Henry, eminent for piety and good sense, used to say to his children: "Please God and please yourselves, and you will never displease me."

During our civil war a marriage was about to be celebrated at Charleston, S. C., between Lieut. de Rochelle and Miss Anna, the daughter of ex-Gov. Pickens. As the ceremony was about to be solemnized a shell broke through the roof and wounded nine of the guests, and the bride fell dying, and, wrapped in her white wedding robe, her betrothed kneeling at her side, in two hours she expired. And there have been many as bright a union of hearts as that proposed, that the bombshell of outrageous parental indignation has wounded and scattered and slain.

If the hand offered in marriage be blotched of intemperance, if the life of the marital candidate has been debauched, if he has no visible means of support, and poverty and embarrassment seem only a little way ahead, if the twain seem entirely unmatched in disposition, protest and forbid and reinforce your opinion by that of others, and put all lawful obstacles in the way; but do not join that company of parents who have ruined their children by a plutocracy of domestic cranikinism which has turned on more than one elopement. I knew of a few cases where marriage has been under the red-hot anathema of parents and all the neighbors, but God approved and the homes established have been beautiful and positively Edenic.

But while we have admitted there are real cases of justifiable rebellion, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, yea, in 999 cases out of a thousand, these unlicensed departures and decampments by moonlight, are ruin, temporal and eternal. It is safer for a woman to jump off the docks of the East river and depend on being able to swim to the other shore, or get picked up by a ferry-boat, the possibilities are that she may be rescued, but the probability is that she will not. Read the story of the escapades in the newspapers for the last ten years, and find me half a dozen that do not mean poverty, disgrace, abandonment, police court, divorce, death, and hell. "Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there."

Satan presides over the escapade. He introduces the two parties to each other. He gets them to pledge their troth. He appoints where they shall meet. He shows them where they can find officiating minister or squire. He points out to them the ticket office for the rail train. He puts them aboard, and when they are going at 40 miles the hour, he jumps off and leaves them in the lurch; for while Satan has a genius in getting people into trouble, he has no genius for getting people out. He induced Jonah to take ship for Tarshish, when God told him to go to Nineveh: but provided for the recreant prophet no better landing place than the middle of the Mediterranean sea.

The modern novel is responsible for many of these absconding. Do you think that young women would sit up half a night reading novels, in which the hero and heroine get acquainted in the usual way and carry on their increased friendliness until, with the consent of parents, the day of marriage is appointed, and amid the surrounding group of kindred the vows are taken? Oh no! There must be flight and pursuit, and narrow escape and drawn dagger, all ending in sunshine and parental forgiveness and bliss unalloyed and gorgeous. In many of the cases of escapade the idea was implanted in the hot brain of the woman by a cheap novel, ten cents' worth of unadulterated perdition.

These evasions of the ordinary modes of marriage are to be deplored, for the reason that nearly all of them are proposed by bad men. If the man behaves well he has a character to which he can refer, and he can say: "If you want to inquire about me there is a list of names of people in the town or neighborhood where I live." No, the heroes of escapades are nearly all bigamists or libertines, or drunkards or defrauders, or first-class scoundrels of some sort. They have no character to lose. They may be dressed in the height of fashion, may be colognied and pomatumed, and padded and diamond-ringed, and flamboyant-cravatted until they bewitch the eye and intoxicate the olfactories, but they are double-distilled extracts of villainy, moral dirt and blasphemy. Beware of them. "Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there."

Fugitive marriage is to be deplored because it almost always implies woman's descent from a higher social plane to a lower. If the man was not of a higher plane or the marriage on an equality, there would be no objections, and hence no inducement to clandestinity. In almost all cases it means the lowering of womanhood. Observe this law: a man marrying a woman beneath him in society may raise her to any eminence that he may himself reach, but if a woman marry a man beneath her in society, she always goes down to his level. This is a law inexorable, and there are no exceptions. Is any woman so high up that she can afford to plot for her own debasement?

There is not a state in the American Union that has not for the last twenty years furnished an instance of the sudden departure of some intelligent woman from an affluent home to spend her life with some one who can make three dollars a day provided he keeps very busy. Well, many a man has lived on three dollars a day and been happy, but he undertakes a big contract when with three dollars a day he attempts to support some one who has lived in a home that cost twenty thousand per annum. This has been about the history of most of such conjunctions of simplicity and extravagance, the marriage of ox and eagle: The first year they get on tolerably well for it is odd and romantic, and assisted by applause of people who admire outlawry. The second year the couple settle down into compleat dislike of each other. The third year they separate and seek for a divorce, or, as is more probable, the man becomes a drunkard and the woman a blackened waif of the street. "Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there."

These truant marriages are also to be deplored because, in most instances, they are executed in the defiance of parental wisdom and kindness. Most parents are anxious for the best welfare of a child. If they make vehement and determined opposition it is largely because it is a match unfit to be made, and they can see for their daughter nothing but wretchedness in that direction. They have keener and wiser appreciation, for instance, of the certain domestic debasement that comes from an alcoholism in a young man. They realize what an idiot a woman is who marries a man who has not brains or industry enough to earn a livelihood for a family. No bureau of statistics can tell us the number of women who, after marriage, have to support themselves and their husbands. If the husband becomes invalid it is a beautiful thing to see a wife uncomplainingly, by needle or pen or yard-stick or washing machine, support the home. But these great, lazy masculine louts that stand around with hands in their pockets, allowing the wife with her weak arm to fight the battle of bread, need to be regurgitated from society. There are innumerable instances in these cities, where the wife pays the rent, and meets all the family expenses, and furnishes the tobacco and the beer for the lord of the household. No wonder parents put on all the brakes to stop such a train of disaster. They have too often seen the gold ring put on the finger at the altar turning out to be the iron link of a chain of domestic servitude. What a farce it is for a man who cannot support himself, and not worth a cent in the world, to take a ring which he purchased by money stolen from his grandmother's cupboard, and put it on the finger of the bride, saying: "With this ring I thee wed, and with all my worldly goods I thee endow."

It is amazing to see how some women will marry men knowing nothing about them. No merchant or merchantess would sell a hundred dollars' worth of goods on credit, without knowing whether the customer was worthy of being trusted. No man or woman would buy a house with encumbrances of mortgages and liens and judgments against it uncancelled, and yet there is not an hour of the day or night for the last ten years there have not been women by hasty marriage entrusting their earthly happiness to men about whose honesty they know nothing, or who are encumbered with liens and judgments and first mortgages and second mortgages and third mortgages of evil habits.

In view of all this I charge you to break up clandestine correspondence if you are engaged in it, and have no more clandestine meetings either at the ferry, or on the street, or at the house of mutual friends, or at the corner of the woods. Do not have letters come for you to the postoffice under assumed address. Have no correspondence that makes you uneasy lest some one by mistake open your letters. Do not employ terms of endearment at the beginning and close of letters, unless you have a right to use them. That young lady is on the edge of danger who dares not allow her mother to see her letters.

If you have sensible parents take them into your confidence in all the affairs of the heart. They will give you more good advice in one hour than you can get from all the world beside in five years. They have toiled for you so long and prayed for you so much, they have your best interests at heart. At the same time let parents review their opposition to proposed marital alliance, and see if their opposition is founded on a genuine wish for the child's welfare or on some whim or notion or prejudice or selfishness, fighting a natural law and trying to make Niagara run upstream. Mr. Pitt, the prime minister of England, was always saying wise things. One day Sir Walter Farquhar called on him in great perturbation. Mr. Pitt inquired what was the matter, and Sir Walter told him that his daughter was about to be married to one not worthy of her rank. Mr. Pitt said: "Is the young man of respectable family?" "Yes." "Is he respectable in himself?" "Yes." "Has he an estimable character?" "Yes." "Why, then, my dear Sir Walter, make no opposition." The advice was taken, and a happy married life ensued. Let ministers and officers of the law decline officiating at clandestine marriages. When they are asked to date a marriage certificate back, as we are all asked, let them peremptorily decline to say that the ceremony was in November instead of in January, or decline to leave the date blank, lest others fill out the record erroneously. Let a law be passed in all our states, as it has already been in some of the states, making a license from officers of the law necessary before we can unite couples, and then make it necessary to publish beforehand in the newspapers, as it used to be published in the New England churches, so that if there be lawful objection it may be presented, not swinging the door on the rocks after the ship has struck and gone to pieces. And here it might be well for me to take all the romance out of an escapade by quoting a dozen lines of Robert Pollock, the great Scotch poet, where he describes the crazied victims of one of these escapades:

"Yet had she many days
Of sorrow in the world, but never wept.
She lived on alms and carried in her hand
Some withered stalks she gathered in the spring.
When any asked the cause, she smiled and said
They were her sisters, and would come and watch
Her grave when she was dead. She never spoke
Of her deceiver, father, mother, home.
Or evil, or heaven, or hell, or God, but still
In lonely places walked and ever gazed
Upon the withered stalks and talked to them;
Till wasted to the shadow of her youth,
With woe too wide to see beyond, she died."

But now I turn on this subject an intenser light. We have 1,500 lights in this church, and when by electric touch they are kindled in the evening service, it is almost startling. But this whole subject of "Clandestine Marriages and Escapades," I put under a more intense light than that. The headlight of a locomotive is terrible if you stand near enough to catch the full glare of it. As it sweeps around the "Horseshoe Curve" of the Alleghenies, or along the edges of the Sierra Nevadas, how far ahead, and how deep down, and how high up, it flashes, and there is instantaneous revelation of mountain peak and wild beasts hieing themselves to their caverns, and cascades a thousand feet tall, clinging in white terror to the precipices.

But more intense, more far-reaching, more sudden, swifter and more tremendous, is the headlight of an advancing judgment day, under which all the most hidden affairs of life shall come to discovery and arraignment. I quote an overwhelming passage of Scripture in which I put the whole emphasis on the word "secret": "God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good or evil."

What a time that will be in which the cover shall be lifted from every home and from every heart. The iniquity may have been so sly that it escaped all human detection, but will be as well known on that day as the crimes of Sodom and Gomorrah, unless for Christ's sake it has been forgiven. All the fingers of universal condemnation will be pointed at it. The archangel of wrath will stand there with uplifted thundrbolt ready to strike it. The squeamishness and prudery of earthly society, which hardly allowed some sins to be mentioned on earth, are past, and the man who was unclean and the woman who was impure, will under a light brighter than a thousand noon-day suns, stand with the whole story written on scalp and forehead, and cheek and hands and feet: the whole resurrection body aflame and dripping with fiery disclosures, ten thousand sepulchral and celestial and infernal voices crying: "Unclean! Unclean! Unclean!"

All marital intrigues and all secret iniquities will be published, as though all the trumpets spoke them, and all the lightnings capitalized them, and all the earthquakes rumbled them. O, man recreant to thy marriage vow! O, woman in sinful collusion! What then will become of thy poor soul? The tumbling Alps and Pyrenees and Mount Washingtons cannot hide these from the consequences of thy secret sins. Better repent of them now, so that they cannot be brought against thee. For the chief of sinners there is pardon, if you ask it in time. But I leave you to guess what chance there will be for those who on earth lived in clandestine relations, when on that day the very Christ who had such high appreciation of the marriage relation that he compared it to his own relation with the church, shall appear at the door of the great hall of the Last Assizes, and all the multitudes of earth and hell and heaven shall rise up and cry out from the three galleries: "Behold the bridegroom cometh!"

FIRST A COLD, AND THEN ANOTHER ON TOP OF IT until the accompanying Cough became settled and confirmed—is the sad story of many a Consumptive. How much better to use that safe curative Dr. Bayne's Expectorant on the first appearance of danger, when the symptoms may be easily controlled.

LOCAL OPTION IN OHIO.

Is It the Duty of the Present Legislature to Give us a County Local Option Law, Similar to that Now in Force in Georgia?

The BLADE has received from Mr. John Danner, of Canton, O., the following communication on the above topic. Mr. Danner is one of the leaders of the third-party Prohibition movement in Ohio; and while the BLADE is in accord with him in desiring Prohibition, it disagrees entirely as to the method of obtaining it. It is a matter of congratulation that he favors local option, and the BLADE gladly gives his views on this subject, although on some points it disagrees with him:

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

In advocating the affirmative of this question, it is not in the interest of any political party, but from a conviction that it is right. I also believe it is the desire to have such a law by a large majority of our best citizens, irrespective of any political party. I am fully aware that there are men in the Democratic and Republican parties who strenuously oppose such a law, but the only two reasons that I can see for such opposition are:

First—That they are financially interested in the perpetuation of the liquor traffic.

Second—That they fear in some way it may lose them votes to their political party, and love of office and bondage to party, is the paramount question with the average politician of our day.

I am also aware that some men in the Prohibition party oppose such a law, but their objection is not for the above named reasons; they fear that the passage of such a law may be considered a fusility on the question of prohibition, and thus hinder its becoming state and national. I am not one of that number. While I am heartily in favor of state and national prohibition, and fully believe that it will be accomplished within the next few years, I am also in favor of asking for county local option, similar to the law now in force in Georgia.

I feel assured that if we had a county local option law, many counties would at once avail themselves of its protection from the rum traffic, and the healthful influence from those counties would soon permeate the whole state and thus hasten the day for state prohibition, and be the more helpful in getting national prohibition.

The old saying that "half a loaf is better than no bread," is true, and I accept it when bread is offered, but when for bread they offer me a stone, I most respectfully decline. Any law that seeks to perpetuate the traffic or selling liquors by a tax or license, high or low, is the stone we decline to accept; all such tampering with the rum question is the great hindrance to prohibition in any form, whether it be county, state or national. The advocates for regulation by tax or license, whether they be legislators or private citizens, hinder prohibition, just as the Copperheads and rebel sympathizers hindered the speedy triumph of the Union army for the salvation of our glorious country. Let the talk for compromise and regulation stop, and we will have prohibition in some form within a year.

[Here the BLADE begs leave to differ. Moral revolutions are never accomplished *per saltum*—at one great bound. They come slowly, almost imperceptibly, step by step. The first step, after the reign of free liquor, is to establish in the minds of the masses that to control the traffic is proper and right, as well as legal. This done, another step, still more stringent, will meet with favor. The trouble with Mr. Danner and many of his party is, that they think all people should see as clearly as do they, the evil of Rum, and the necessity of its extirpation. Regulation is good as an educator. License is objectionable, in that it places the law as a defence to the traffic.—ED.]

The liquor men themselves could not resist the will of a virtuous and sober people any longer. It is only the aid and comfort they get from otherwise good men, who are croaking that "prohibition does not prohibit," that enables the liquor power to keep on in its ruinous course. Let these good men get out of the way, and victory for local option will soon come, and state and national prohibition will quickly follow.

I am fully convinced that if our representatives in the General Assembly wish to carry out the sentiments of their constituents they would pass such a law. A state law that only idcludes cities and villages for local option I should oppose, for the reason that we all know that the strongholds of the rum traffic lie in the cities and towns; the rural districts are just as much a part of the state as are the cities and villages, and their families are as much in danger from the perpetuation of the rum traffic as are the people in cities, therefore they should not be disfranchised on so vital a question; no state law providing for local option should embrace less than a county as a district, to adopt or reject such a law.

[Here the BLADE omits a portion of Mr. Danner's letter first, because entire it is too long to publish; second, the omitted portion is not necessary to the clear understanding of his argument.—ED.]

It is the duty of the present legislature to give us a county local option law, similar to that in Georgia—

First—For the reason that local option was refused heretofore, by both the Republican and Democratic legislatures when in power, and now that we have a divided General Assembly, one branch being Democratic and the other Republican, it is their duty to their constituents to give such a law.

Second—After the misrepresentation of the sentiments of the people by the former legislatures on this question, and to see that the vote of 1883 gives them an unerring guide to know that the people want some form of prohibition, and not regulation; it is therefore their duty to give a local option law to the people at this time.

Third—The enacting of a county local option law does not establish prohibition, except in such counties as the majority of the sovereign people may say so by their votes; and as the voice of the people through the ballot box, is the boasted doctrine of both the Democratic and Republican parties, it is criminal in both parties to refuse such a law, when as already stated there are three for prohibition where there is one for perpetuating the traffic by any form of regulation. The legislature therefore should give such a law this winter.

Observing people see and know that the former legislatures of both parties have by their tricks and deceptions "scuffed out" of their halls, the demand for prohibition, and the political leaders in the campaign of 1883, "counted it out." Now if the present legislature will assume the responsibility to "count it out," there will be such an uprising among the masses of our best citizens, irrespective of party, for prohibition in Ohio, as will make these political jugglers' heads swim; therefore not only the best interests of the state demand such a local option law, as this question contemplates; it is also a warning to the political parties who array themselves against the "voice of the people," that by so doing they are digging their own political graves. All principles of right, the will of the people as expressed at the polls, and the protection of our homes and firesides demand that our present legislature give us a county local option law, similar to that now in force in Georgia.

YOUNG PHYSICIAN.—Your analysis of Red Star Cough Cure is, no doubt, correct. It is the same as that which we lately published of Prof. Grothe, Brooklyn Board of Health, who found the remedy absolutely free from poisons and opiates, and safe and sure. It costs only 25 cents a bottle.

Mississippi Politics.

JACKSON, Jan. 21.—The legislature, in joint session yesterday, compared and verified the vote cast by each house yesterday for United States senators, as required by the constitution, and Messrs. Waltham and George were officially declared elected.

Use the great specific for "cold in head" and catarrh—Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy.

DOMESTIC DISCORD

Has often arisen from a petulant discussion over bad bread. As a family Peacemaker nothing equals

☞ WARNER'S ☜

SAFE YEAST

Which, used with judgment,

NEVER FAILS!

It is put up in packages, 16 cakes in a box Price, 10c box.

If your Grocer does not keep it order it by mail of

Warner's Safe Yeast Co., Rochester, N.Y.

A Black Eye for Florida.

SANFORD, Fla., Jan. 26.—Florida has a black eye. The orange crop is ruined, and many of the young trees are killed. The people are trying to conceal it, the land agents swear it is not so, but it is so. There is not a sound orange left in all this region. In all the famous orange groves the ground is covered with golden frozen fruit. These are facts gathered from the best sources of information, and they mean a loss of $50,000,000.

Publishers' Column.

OUR SEWING MACHINE ENTERPRISE!

NOTICE TO APPLICANTS FOR CIRCULARS!

At last, after delays as innumerable as vexatious, we are ready to make a positive announcement.

We have the best machine, as we verily believe, now on the market; we warrant it to be as handsome a machine as any, and greatly superior in point of style and finish to the most, and we warrant them without reserve to do everything claimed for them, which we shall sell direct to to the people, without the intervention of middle men, on the following terms:

THE BLADE SEWING MACHINE AND THE Weekly Blade One Year, FOR $18.

This is half that any good machine sold the old way can be bought for.

We put the machine securely crated, on board cars, the freight to be paid by the party ordering it.

Those ordering the machine who are all ready taking the BLADE will be credited with one year in advance of the time for which they have paid.

☞ The BLADE machine is not sold by agents, and can be procured only of us and on these terms.

Remit by Postoffice order, or drafts upon New York, Chicago or Toledo.

CAUTION.

We especially desire our readers not to confound this machine with the cheap machines so extensively advertised. All these other machines are either old ones rebuilt, or machines built from expired patents and without the modern improvements. The Blade Machine is entirely new, with a dozen improvements, built of the best possible material and in the best possible manner, by skilled workmen and with machinery of our own construction. We warrant it to be the best machine for family use on the market.

The Blade Company Guarantees This.

We shall commence shipping machines early in February, and ship daily thereafter. Machines will be shipped in the order in which orders are received.

Be particular as to giving addresses, and please designate whether you want them sent by freight or express.

ORDER AT ONCE.

Address BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

P. S.—Every machine will be thoroughly tried and tested before leaving the factory

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TO THOSE WHO DO NOT TAKE THE BLADE.

Persons not subscribers to the BLADE and who may receive this number, are requested to examine it carefully. Of course if it pleases them we want their subscriptions. Look over the various departments and see whether anywhere you can get so much for the money.

Our terms are $1 a year, 30 cents for three months.

And please read the Publisher's Department on the fifth page, as well as advertisements elsewhere, and note the commission offers we make. Everything we advertise we guarantee, and you take no risk in availing yourself of anything we offer. Try the BLADE. Subscribe at once, and you will not be disappointed. It is beyond question the best family paper in the world, which statement 120,000 families will attest.

THE THREE GREAT GENERALS—GRANT, SHERMAN AND SHERIDAN.

We have published portraits of the three great Generals of the war, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, which are the best portraits of the heroes that have ever been put upon paper. John S. Kountz, late commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, says that our portrait of Grant is the best ever published. Sen. Sherman says that our portrait of his brother, the General, is the best and most life-like he has ever seen, and we know that the portrait of Sheridan was never excelled. We have printed these superb portraits on the finest plate paper, size 19 by 24, and will mail them to any address, post-paid, as follows:

Singly	25 cents
The three, to one address	50 cents
In combination with the Blade—	
The Blade one year with either	$1 15
The Blade one year with all three	1 40
The Blade three months with either	40 cents
The Blade three months with all three	65 cents

We guarantee these portraits to be the best for the price ever printed, and they should be on the walls of every loyal family in the United States. No such portraits are sold by other publishers for less than from 50 cents to $1. We could not do it, expected for the large sale we are certain to have.

☞ Agents and others can make money selling these portraits. Write to us for special terms.

THE BLADE'S TEMPERANCE CARTOONS

To Temperance Workers, Societies and Organizations.

The BLADE, months ago, conceived the idea of instructing the people in the Temperance cause by means of appeals to the eye. To the end of arousing public sentiment we have issued two cartoons, for posting, the first of which has been scattered all over the United States. Of this one we sent out, gratis, nearly 100,000, which is our contribution to the great cause.

BLADE CARTOON, NO. 1.

"Do You See Any Good Coming Out of It?"

This is a very forcible picture. In the center is a bottle labelled "Whiskey," though a label is unnecessary. From the mouth of the bottle issues a vapor which separates in four sections, crowning each being pictures representing Murder, Beggary, Gambling and Delirium. On one side of the bottle is a devil and on the other a bar-room loafer, with appropriate sketches filling in the corners.

It is a powerful presentation of the evils and certain results of Intemperance.

BLADE CARTOON, NO. 2.

"Which Way Would You Have Your Boy Go?"

A series of pictures, commencing with the face of a beautiful three-year-old, who starts in life on an equality with all other three-year-olds. On the upward one comes first the clean-faced boy of 10 in his way to school; next, the young, ambitious student at 18; then the young soldier of 21; then the middle-aged, strong man of 30; and, lastly, the hale and hearty old man of 70.

The contrast is another line of pictures, viz: The street boy already under the influence of rum, with the stub of a cigar in his mouth, at 10, the hoodlum at 18, the barroom loafing ruffian at 21, the tramp and criminal of 50, and the broken-down vagabond of 70.

There can be no more forcible presentation of the subject in pictorial form, and no cartoon can be devised that will better tell the whole story and do it at a glance.

BLADE CARTOON NO. 3.

"Which Way Would You Have Your Girl Go?"

Our next Cartoon, which is now rapidly being mailed, is entitled, "Which way would you have your Girl Go?" It contrasts the life of a girl who marries a sober man with one who weds a drunkard, and is quite as effective as those that have preceded it.

BLADE CARTOON NO. 4.

"In Which Village Would You Bring Up Your Children?"

This is the title of our Temperance cartoon, No. 4. It is an exceedingly spirited illustration of two villages, one under Prohibition rule and the other under the control of the Rum mills. It is quite as effective as its three predecessors, and will do as much toward arousing the public sentiment upon this great question. Those who have ordered the three preceding ones should add this immediately.

BLADE CARTOON, NO. 5.

We have just issued another Temperance cartoon, the fifth in the series. It bears the inscription, "This farmer never drank whisky—this one drinks all he can get." It is quite as effective as its predecessors. On the one side is a farm house looking as do all farm houses where whisky never got a hold, clean, neat and prosperous. On the other side of the sheet is a farm house whose proprietor does drink, slovenly, shiftless-looking, and wrecked as possible. The contrast is sharply drawn and the picture is a most effective one.

We have made a price on them, which barely covers the cost of paper and postage:

Three copies of either	6 cents.
Six copies	10 cents.
Twenty-five copies	30 cents.
One Hundred copies	One dollar.

This gives no profit, the price covering only cost of printing, paper and postage. We contribute wrapping-paper and labor.

We want them pasted up so that they will stay, in every shop, store, factory, and on fences where they will be seen, in every section of the United States. There must be a temperance sentiment developed, everywhere. The people need awakening. Order them—the cost is barely nothing.

Send in your orders at once, and when received post them where they will be seen. We shall follow these with others.

Choice Patent Buckwheat Flour for sale. ACME FLOURING MILLS, Corry, Pa.

40 Hidden Name, Gold Fringe MottoCds& Sample Pk.10c;14pks,$1. Blakeslee&Co., NorthHaven, Conn.

We Three are One. A good book sent free. Address Prof. W. Palmer, 20 S. 9th st., Philada., Pa.

Poor Writers become elegant ones with a few days' practice on my Muscle Sunk Grove Copy Plates. Full set sent $1. Clem E. Westbrook, Manitowoc, Wis.

Read Carefully the Last Paragraph of this Advertisement.

BOOKS FOR WINTER READING!

With or Without the BLADE.

ALSO

WATCHES, Etc

The following books are of our own publication and give a variety of pleasant reading and valuable information that no family should be without. We make prices less than half of book store prices, and we prepay postage to your very door. Whether for family reading or presents to your friends, every reader of the BLADE should order a copy of each. Order one copy first, to see how much we give for the money, after which you will be sure to order the whole list:

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The travels of D. R. Locke in Europe, one of the most entertaining books of travel ever written. Profusely illustrated; 320 pages. Original price $3.50. Present price, postpaid by mail, $1.25.

Andersonville.

A Story of Southern Prisons, by John McElroy. This is the only correct history of Southern prisons ever written, and one of the most entertaining as well as truthful books ever published. Old price, $3.00; now, postpaid by mail, $1.25.

OLD DR. CARLIN'S RECIPES,

the best book of recipes and the most reliable ever printed. It has always sold for $2.00. Price now postpaid by mail, $1.00.

Health and Beauty,

by Miss Emily S. Bouton. There is no more valuable book ever written for women and girls. It contains plain and reliable directions for attaining and retaining health and beauty, and is indispensable. Price, $1.00, postpaid by mail.

Social Etiquette,

another book for the young of both sexes, by the same author. All the forms and observances of good society, with the reasons for and the philosophy thereof, are plainly stated. Every young person should have this book, as well as a great many old ones. Price, $1.00, postpaid by mail.

LIFE AND DEEDS OF GRANT,

By Rev. P. C. Headley and Gen. Lowell Austin. This is beyond question the best life of Grant ever written, because it is the fullest and goes more than any other into detail. It commences with the boyhood of the great soldier and statesman, and gives a full and complete account of him to his death, to which is added a graphic account of his obsequies. It is profusely illustrated with original pictures, beautifully engraved, including a steel portrait of the General. It is a book of nearly 500 pages, well printed and substantially bound. The regular price is $1.50, and it is richly worth it to anybody. $1.25. Postpaid by mail.

BUNYAN'S PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

This magnificent steel engraving was never sold for less than $10, and it is richly worth it. It is the most valuable steel plate ever engraved, that was ever engraved, and should be on the walls of every house. In 300 tableaux it tells the whole story of the Pilgrim's Progress. Postpaid by mail, $1.25.

THE NASBY WATCH.

This is the well known Waterbury watch, manufactured especially for the BLADE, and stamped "Nasby." There is no necessity of making any comment upon this marvel of cheapness and excellence. We have sent out thousands of them. Regular price, $3.50. Postpaid by mail.

NOW READ THESE COMBINATION OFFERS:

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"NASBY IN EXILE," and the BLADE one year	2.10
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Every family in the United States ought to have the BLADE and all the articles. Address

BLADE, Toledo, O.

EVERY BOY

wants a watch, and every boy can have one. $3.50 gives your boy a good watch and you get the BLADE one year thrown in. Remit $3.50 to the BLADE, Toledo, Ohio, and get the Waterbury watch for the boy and the BLADE one year for yourself.

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LIST OF PRIZES.

1	CAPITAL PRIZE	$75,000
1	do do	25,000
1	do do	10,000
2	PRIZES OF $5000	12,000
5	do 2,000	10,000
10	do 1000	10,000
20	do 500	10,000
100	do 200	20,000
200	do 100	20,000
500	do 50	25,000
1000	do 25	25,000

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9	Approximation Prizes of $750	6,750
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9	do do 250	2,250
1967	Prizes, amounting to	$260,500

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THE WATERBURY

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON, EDITOR.

CORRESPONDENTS writing for this department will please observe the following rules:
1. Write "Household Department" on the envelope.
2. Give real name and Postoffice address—not for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.
3. Write only on one side of the paper. Write PLAINLY. DO NOT interline. Write BRIEFLY.

HOME TALKS.

READING AND LIBRARIES.

Since I wrote to urge the spending of winter evenings in some definite pursuit, a number of inquiries have come to me in regard to a course of reading upon certain subjects. The writers have, of course, little idea of the amount of labor necessary in preparing such courses, the looking up of the best authorities, and the study to arrange the order so that it can be pursued to the greatest advantage. It is impossible for me to do it as I would like to at present, and yet I trust from time to time to be able to give some hints in that direction which may be of advantage in future work.

Instead of the usual "Talk" this week, I will give you the following course of reading in English history which has been recommended by persons who should know whereof they speak. It seems to me quite complete without being burdensome, and you who have the leisure, will find if you follow it out carefully, that you have gained a mastery of the past of another country which will be exceedingly valuable. As a basis for the course take any one of these four histories:

1. Charles Dickens's "Child's History of England;" 2. Dr. Charles Knight's "History of England from the time of Julius Cæsar to James II." After Hume's death the history was taken up by Macaulay. 3. Froude's History. Commencing with any of these histories read:

I. Through the time of King John. Then read in connection:

1. Ivanhoe (Scott); 2. The Talisman (Scott); 3. King John (Shakespeare).

II. Resuming history read through Edward II. In connection:

1. Scott's "Tales of a Grandfather;" read as far as the story of Robert Bruce and battle of Bannockburn; 2. Lord of the Isles, (Scott.)

III. Through time of Richard II. Then read:

1. Shakespeare's "King Richard II."

IV. Through time of Henry V. Then read:

1. Shakespeare's "Henry V."

V. Through time of Henry VI. Then read:

1. Anne of Geierstein (Scott;) 2. "Life of Margaret" of Anjou, in Strickland's "English Queens"; 3. DeQuincy's essay on "Joan D'Arc."

VI. Through Richard III. Then read:

1. Richard III. (Shakespeare;) 2. Strickland's life of "Elizabeth Woodville."

VII. Read through Henry VII. Then read:

1. In tales of a Grandfather, read the part relating to King James of Scotland.

VIII. Read Henry VIII. Then read:

1. Henry VIII. Shakespeare;) 2. Lady of the Lake, (with notes) Scott; 3. Strickland's "Life of Henry's Wives."

IX. Through time of Elizabeth. Then:

1. Read Freud's "History of the time of Elizabeth;" 2. In Tales of a Grandfather, read the part relating to Mary, Queen of Scots; 3. Kenilworth (Scott); 4. The Abbot, do; 5. The Monastery, do; 6. Westward Ho! (Charles Kingsley.)

X. Through the reign of James I. Then read:

1. In the "Tales of a Grandfather," the part relating to James I. 2. Fortunes of Nigel. (Scott.)

XI. Through Cromwell. Then read:

1. Woodstock (Scott).

XII. Through time of Charles II. Then read:

1. Peveril of the Peak (Scott.)

XIII. Through William and Mary. Then read:

1. Siege of Derry (Charlotte Elizabeth.)

XIV. Through George I. and II. Then read:

1. Rob Roy (Scott;) 2. Waverly, do.; 3. Red Gauntlet, do.; 4. Heart of Midlethian, do.; 5. Historical Sketches of Reign of George II. (Mrs. Oliphant;) 6. Essay on Madame D'Arbay (Macaulay;) 7. Essay on Warren Hastings (Macaulay.)

XV. Through George III. and IV. Then read:

1. Book on the Four Georges (Thackeray;) 2. Italian History and Life; 3. Ranke's History of the Popes; 4. Milman's Latin Christianity, vol. vi.

Those who begin this course will find a good dictionary and atlas a necessity. An encyclopedia will also be a great help, though it is possible to proceed without it. At the present time books are so cheap that a very small sum will go a great ways in their purchase. Many of those mentioned in the above course are published in a cheap form, and they will be a valuable possession. For instance Knights history in eight volumes can be bought for $3. Shakespere's complete works can be had as low as 75 cents and perhaps less. Of course the higher the price, up to a certain point, the better the print and binding, and therefore the more desirable. A number of the works mentioned are among the "Seasides" and the "Franklin" series which are sold for so little.

If you have access to a good public or private library you are so much the better off. If you have not, get what books you can, as you go along, and let the rest go until you are where they can be obtained, as you are in a position to buy them. Even though you can obtain but a small part, a methodical arrangement of what you *do* read, instead of the hap-hazard way usually pursued will be of great advantage. Later on, if you have cut this course out and pursued it—which I hope you will do, unless you have one as good or better—you can take it up again and pursue it more thoroughly.

This is as good a place as any to say a word in regard to the forming of a library. The great thing is to begin. Whenever you can spare a little money for the purpose buy a standard work in a good, strong binding. Even should you not add more than one or two in the course of a year, it is astonishing what a mine of literary wealth you will soon possess. Remember that it is quality, not quantity, that you must consider. Do not purchase ephemeral literature no matter if it is a tracting some attention because of a novel feature. If you can obtain such things from the public library it is well enough to read them, so as to know what people are talking about, or if you have generous means, you can afford to buy generously, and can therefore get such books, and when you have read them, give them to others, but if your dollars for such purposes are to be counted only by careful economy, it is unwise to spend them for anything except what the literary culture of generations has set its seal of approval upon.

The foundation is, however, as I have said before, a dictionary, an atlas, and an encyclopedia. Especially are these necessary for teachers, but any one who desires to read understandingly should have free access to them, and therefore it is well to make them among the first purchases. Should an encyclopedia be beyond compassing, a dictionary will do much towards answering your needs, and then proceed by degrees from that.

Valuable and expensive books can frequently be bought upon the installment plan, and that is a very good way, when you cannot at once command the price. They will be delivered to you in numbers, or if in volumes you pay so much per month as is arranged beforehand. In this way you will not feel the outlay.

I have heard people say that they did not care to own books when they could get them from a library, because they then have no care of them, except during the time each one is in the house. Such persons se that delightful sense of kinship which the ownership of what they read brings. It is like having, not friends, but mere acquaintances to be thrown off as soon as the occasion comes. One learns to love his books, to feel their silent but intelligent companionship. Their familiar faces always wear the same friendly expression, no matter how the rest of the world may use you. Then too they are at hand when needed, which is no slight consideration in these days of do-things-in-a-hurry. By all means get a few books that are your very own, a part and parcel of your life. You will not regret their possession. EMILY S. BOUTON.

Fancy Work and House Decoration

Needle Case.—Get three-eighths of a yard of ribbon about four inches wide and the same length of some pretty contrasting color an inch or an inch and a half wide. Point the ends of both ribbons and sew the points together wrong side out, then turn them. The narrow ribbon must now lay straight upon the center of the wide. Stitch perpendicular lines at intervals across the whole length at different distances apart, so as to make cases large enough for different sized papers of needles. Embroider on each pocket the number of the needles to be placed there. Have narrow ribbon sewed upon one of the points so as to have two long ends, then roll the case from the other end and tie it around. This latter ribbon can be embroidered if liked, but it is pretty plain.

Pillow Sham Holder.—Take a broomstick and cut it the width of the door in your sleeping apartment. Cover this with plush or cretonne, or chenille it. Tack a cord to each end with a brass-headed nail to hang it up by. Make loops of cord and tassels to put at each end. This hung to the door, will be found a most convenient place to hang your shams upon when they are not in use.

O. F. S., Clarington, O. "Fancy Work and House Decorations" does not give patterns for looking upon Java canvas. It does describe different kinds of scarfs for dressing bureaus, etc., made of different kinds of materials. Send 25 cents to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O., and get one.

A Home-made Decoration.—The *Scientific American* tells how to have a decorated goblet with a very little trouble as follows: Take a glass or goblet and fill it a fourth or third full of salt water. In a day or so a slight scum will be seen upon the glass—hourly this will grow until in a very short time the glass will present a beautiful appearance, the glass being enlarged to twice its thickness, and covered with beautiful salt crystals, packed one upon another exactly like some peculiar fungus or animal growth. It is necessary to place a dish beneath the glass, as the crystals will run over. The glass can be made additionally beautiful by placing in the salt and water some common red ink; this will be absorbed and the white surface covered. No more simple method of producing inexpensive or beautiful ornaments can be imagined, and by using different shapes of vases and shades, an endless variety of beautiful forms can be produced.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and t, slip and turn; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; ci ch st, close chain stitch; d c st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c t st, crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; t, treble; sh c, short crochet.

To Crochet a Shoulder Cape.—A "Reader" asks for directions for crocheting a shoulder cape. I have never tried writing any patterns out, and so do not know whether I shall be able to do it very plain, but will try. I am now making one out of black Saxony, to have black satin ribbon run in it. The whole cape is crocheted in what I think is called d c, but am not quite certain about the names of stitches, and so will say that I mean t to and crochet two stitches off, and t to again, and crochet the two remaining stitches off.

First, begin by crocheting a chain of about 85 stitches. Then turn, and in the 3d stitch put 1 d c and in the 4th stitch put 1 d c. Then knit chain of two, and skip two stitches in the original chain stitch, and put 1 d c in each the 7th and 8th stitches, and so on until you have 20 places of the 2 d c. To turn always crochet a chain of two. Crochet the 24 row same as the 1st one, always remembering to keep the chain of 2 between the 2 d c, through the entire cape.

In the 3d row, increase once—in one of the d c in a place—clear across, i. e., 1 d c, and then 2 d c in *same* place, then chain of 2, 1 d c, 2 d c in same place &c. For 4th row—knit across plain. 5th row—increase again. 6th row—plain. 7th row—increase, and so on till you have 15 d c in a place. Then crochet without increasing till you have about eight more rows. Then it is ready for the border which is made in this way:

For across the lower edge crochet a chain of 40 stitches and catch in first stitch, and then another chain of 40, and catch into next stitch, and so on until you are across. For the sides and around the neck the border is made the same way, except you crochet only 20 stitches in the chain each time, instead of 40.

Now you can get a bolt of satin ribbon, No. 3 width. Where you have the strips of 'chain of 2" down the entire cape, run the ribbon in and out, and fasten at the top and lower edge, leaving a small end at the latter, which you can loop and let hang over, or else just let hang plain, as you choose. Put a cord of twisted yarn, or else just a chain stitch, in at the neck, or else in front. Finish with bow of ribbon in front at the neck. To make the cape you will need six bunches of the Saxony, i. e. the 15-cent bunches; and the bolt of ribbon will cost you about 85 cents. Now, I hope "A Reader," or any others, will be able to understand this, for it makes a very pretty cape when finished. If you do not understand, write to me, inclosing a stamp, telling me just what the trouble is, and I will try and explain. This cape is for a person of medium size.—MRS. O. L. BLACHLY, Sparta, Washington Co., Pa.

The HOUSEHOLD must have made and received many pretty things during the holidays, which we should be glad to have a description of for the benefit of all. Please send them.—ED.

Correspondence.

SOMETHING OF A GROWL.—At the ushering in of the new year, when old memories were revived, and friends of the past brought to our minds, I could not but think of the old HOUSEHOLD band. I do not refer to their age, but in membership. Two years ago no paper had a more interesting circle of correspondents than the BLADE, but they have "flown like the summer birds away." Now, I think the positive business is all right and proper, and no one enjoys a nice roast hen, or fried egg and ham, better than "yours truly," but I would hate to be compelled to listen to "chicken talk" every time one of the family came in the room. And if a neighbor dropped in to spend the afternoon, or to make a call, just think of the anguish of soul and body to know that the time would be consumed in recounting the merits or demerits of their chickens. I don't want to find fault, but it seems that is what our columns have run to of late. It used to be such a pleasure, and one that was anticipated from week to week, to read the newsy, breezy letters from all over the country. It seemed when we got through, as though we had been on an extended "tower" and came back with lighter hearts and broader, deeper minds; but now when I pick up the BLADE, I instinctively gather my skirts about me, for I know before I unfold the paper that ere I finish the correspondence, I must pass through that detested poultry yard.

If this is to be a working woman's convention, give it an appropriate name, and if not, let's have the old style of long ago. And any one that wants to make a business of the one before the house, would do well to take a paper that treats more exhaustively than in the small space allotted here, for you cannot learn too much, if you wish to succeed, and you will soon gain enough to pay for the extra paper, and the uninterested will be spared.

Now if the old writers will just come back we will form a secret vigilant committee and do some house cleaning. The chickens we will cook and have a grand feast. But, oh! horrors of horrors, what must be done with the odious silk worms that fill fully as much space as the former evil? I tell you how we will get rid of them. I will stay in the kitchen and baste the fowls while you—there I can feel them crawling all over me—exterminate those awful, awful worms. If this doesn't get in the waste basket, or worse yet, be used to line that despised hen's nest, I hope to get a general uprising among old and new members of the HOUSEHOLD band, and make it what it once was, only better.—TRULY YOURS.

ARITHMETIC FOR YOUNG CHILDREN.—A method of teaching arithmetic to primary pupils is asked for by "One of Them" in the BLADE of December 17.

We would like to give the conclusions drawn from our work in that direction. If our methods do not suit the circumstances of "One of Them," they may draw out criticisms which may benefit some one. In the first place we think (as some do not) that children should be taught arithmetic at a very early age. If possible, the child should begin it the day he enters school. We say "if possible," because the teacher in the country school must often find himself unable to do all that ought to be done. He must, therefore, strive to accomplish such and so much work as his particular circumstances seem to demand.

Providing circumstances permit, then, let the little one begin arithmetic when he begins school. Let his lesson this first day be to tell the teacher what he knows, for he has learned some arithmetic already. This he will like to tell you, if you take the right way to draw him out. What he knows will determine for you what his lesson for the next day should be. As soon as he shall have become sufficiently familiar with school so that it shall not embarrass him let him go to the blackboard. Make one or two easy figures for him, such as 1, 4, 6, 7. Give him among his earlier lessons some lessons in counting. A good way to interest him is to ask him to bring to-morrow to you so many grains of corn or so many leaves of a certain kind or any other articles such as he cannot obtain at the school house. This will give exercise to his memory, as well as test his ability to count the given number.

Keep up the work on the blackboard unremittingly. Teach him one thing every day. As soon as he counts readily and can make the figures as far as ten, write a perpendicular row of figures and draw a line beneath and let him do an "example." Then teach him to read and write numbers having two, three and four figures.

Next teach him to add numbers having two, three, and four figures.

Keep up the work all this time. When he is proficient in this work let him make tables in addition, teaching him the sign "plus" and the sign of equality and their meaning and use. Next place examples having these signs on the board and let him find the result and place it after with the sign of equality. Give him work of this kind to be done on his slate at his seat and to be brought with him to the class for examination by the teacher.

This class will comprise your first reader class and also perhaps some of your second, if your second has not begun arithmetic. On account of difference in age and quickness, some will progress much faster than others. Keep as many of them as possible along together for the first month, then divide the class. Take the backward class over and over the ground already covered until they are familiar with it. Let the advance class go on rapidly. Teach them definitions orally by frequent repetitions. At the beginning of the recitation repeat to them definition in words suited to their comprehension. Thus: Notation is writing numbers. Then have them repeat it to you. Do this again at the close of the recitation. Repeat this process until the class has learned the definition thoroughly.

This will suffice to show you a method which we have found to work well in practice.

We regard the study of arithmetic by young scholars as of the first importance. It furnishes them with occupation for their fingers. Every little child likes to *do* something. It enables the teacher to keep the little ones busy, and therefore happy. Besides all this it forms the best method of equalizing the capabilities of children. Stimulating the dull, and quieting the too ambitious.

We hope this method may be found available by "One of Them" and would request that he give us his views about teaching writing.

A YOUNG TEACHER'S THOUGHTS.—I have read with much interest the different letters on teaching. As the examination question is now discussed, I write to favor its adoption in our country schools, where reviews are so much neglected. The aim is to reach a given point in the book, and it is with pleasure the teacher marks the progress of his pupil. One way is to question the class upon the lesson of the day previous, before commencing the lesson of to-day. They will then answer from actual memory.

I am in favor of giving prizes. I keep a record of the perfect lessons, as that is more just than "leaving off at the head" as a pupil may miss, and then happen to correct and go to the head. I don't see how teaching can be otherwise than pleasant. I am teaching my third term in the same school, and have had very little trouble. When any of the scholars get into trouble at recess, instead of calling them in and punishing them, I'll go out and talk to them mildly, but earnestly, and sometimes will engage in their games, and soon all is forgotten. As my scholars are mostly young, I find they are easier governed by mild than severe punishment. I would like to talk longer, but will not occupy too much time at first. Let us hear from others.—CONTENTED TEACHER, Liberty, Mich.

A SUGGESTION.—I wish to tell the HOUSEHOLD how I preserve items of interest and also wood cuts of people found in the BLADE and other papers. I have a book in which I paste the pictures with the short sketch of their lives and call it my album of eminent people. One soon becomes familiar with their faces and their history. It is pleasant when you hear people spoken of to recall their features and be able to converse intelligently concerning their lives.

Then I have another book of choice poetry, and a third one for miscellaneous articles. Let me say here that I use boiled starch of about the same consistency as you would make it for the shirts, for paste. I find it much nicer than mucilage.

Can any one give me the address of the proprietor of the Arkansas Springs? I have heard the treatment there would eradicate all scrofulous or cancerous taint from the system. Can that statement be corroborated? —A HAWKEYE.

LIFE.—For some the stream of life seems to ever flow past green and sunny banks, while others are driven over wild seas to unknown shores. This world has well been compared to a battlefield. To us who are young in years, life's battlefield means a great deal. A love for all other things should look well to the building of our characters. We are building, ever building. Permit me to say that life's true riches and glory are not found in the popular highways of the world, but in a good moral character.

In all ages men have sought for earthly glory, and at the present time thousands are ascending the hill of fame, expecting to find glory and honor; but when they gain its summit they are still unsatisfied.

Many trials may await us, but it is by being tried that we know what is in us. Life's path stretches out before us. Our feet may tread many rugged hills, but beyond them lies the light of a dawning morning.

Those who are striving earnestly for right should never yield to discouragements, let come what will.—MYSTERIOUS STRANGER.

Inquiries.

Can some one tell me what to put in soap to make it wash in hard water.—MRS. R. H. SMALL.

Will some one that knows, please state whether there is a book, pamphlet or work of any kind published that gives directions or hints in regard to millinery? And will some one please send directions for curling or renovating feathers. Can some one send plain directions for decorating cakes, such as we find in fashionable bakeries? Also for the frosting that keeps its shape so nicely.—ENQUIRER.

There is a young lady in our neighborhood that I would like to keep company with. I asked her for her company in the future, and she said it would not be for the best she thought, and gave no other reason. How should I proceed to gain that which I desire?—A. B. G.

The probability is that though she may hold you to be a pleasant acquaintance, she does not yet like you well enough to allow you a monopoly of her society. You will be more likely to gain her affections by always making yourself agreeable to her, and showing her whatever attention in a general way that she will accept.

Will some of the thoughtful members of the HOUSEHOLD express their opinion of this "keeping company" before an engagement, whether it is a good, wholesome custom or otherwise?—ED.

Will some one send directions for making wide collars of feather-edge braid; also send directions for knitted hoods; also send careful directions for making the beautiful fairy flowers from milkweed pods? Will some one kindly send directions for making pine-apple (crochet) lace?

Will some person of experience tell me how to deal with a child of 10 years, who needs reforming, who is light-fingered, who is deceptive in every way, who is bold, reckless of all authority, who seems to develop but little moral sense in two years careful training but after all is affectionate?—TROUBLED MARTHA.

Our little girl, 1 year old, is beginning to walk. Her legs are bowed considerable. What can we do to straighten them? Is all the material used in manufacturing silks made by the silk worm? If so, how?—J. W. C.

Rub the child's legs thoroughly night and morning with alcohol and sea salt. This is very strengthening. It may be necessary for it to wear braces, but if not too bad, the rubbing will cause them to strengthen.

All silk used in manufacturing is the product of silk worms, which spin it into cocoons and then die. Trials have been made of substitutes, but they have not been used largely.—ED.

We have a mocking bird that was singing nicely a month ago, but has quit singing, and some of the time breathes through its mouth and has spells of sneezing. It eats well and appears lively. It shed some time ago, and quit singing then, but began to sing nicely before it became affected. What ails it? and what treatment should it have? Can you answer in the BLADE this week?—ISAIAH DILLON.

Answers to Inquiries.

Someone wishes to know where postal cards are manufactured. They are made at Holyoke, and 40 men are continually employed at their manufacture. The cardboard is furnished in packages of 3,000 each, and every sheet is made into 40 postals. Three presses are kept going night and day. A machine slits the sheets in strips of ten cards each, and these in turn are cut into single cards, and dumped into piles of 25 each, when they are packed by girls in pasteboard boxes containing 500 cards. A government officer is constantly on hand to see that no pilfering of cards is done. The Holyoke manufactory turns out about 1,000 cards a day.—ED.

Please say to "M. G. H.," the woman who wished a home in the last number of the BLADE, I have long thought I would like a good, middle-aged woman (colored preferred) to make a home with me. I am one of the shut-in band, having been an invalid for almost seven years. I wish I could tell all to whom is given the ministry of suffering, how I love them, and how much Jesus loves them; and to them all my New Year's greeting is "Be strong and of a good courage." God bless you, dear sister and editor, for all your helpful words to tired mothers and sad sisters. Eternity will alone reveal how many you have lifted upward.—MRS. B. O. STEPHENSON.

If "Subscriber," who has little girl partly paralyzed, will write to B. F. Smith, Box 506 Ludington, Mason county, Mich., I think he can tell what will cure her.

For ring worm, mix gunpowder and lard and apply. Also take something for the blood.

For the bladder trouble, cook parsnip and eat plenty of them and drink the water they are cooked in.

My birds are never troubled with lice. I put a little bag of sulphur in the cage and a little bag of ground red pepper, and when they try to eat it they dust themselves with it and it kills the lice.—X.

If "Agnes," who states "I am called a first class milliner," will address a letter (giving full name) to Mrs. William B. Morrow, Bellaire, Ohio, P. O. box 351, she may learn something to her advantage.—T. A.

In looking over the HOUSEHOLD I see the call from "Della" for a cure for piles. I will send one that is tried and true. Take a piece of plug tobacco about one inch square, boil it in as little water as possible, to get the strength, then strain the water off from the drugs, and add to the liquid one teacupful of unsalted butter or lard; simmer until the water is extracted. Use as an ointment.

"Della" also calls for a cure for canker. I will send one, that I know is sure, from experience, and all that fail to save it, will find it a good remedy. This is the second time I have sent it to the BLADE and all should save it whether they want it now or not; they may in future. It is also said to be a never-failing remedy for diphtheria: Alcohol, 4 ozs.; iodide potassium, 4 scs.; red iodide of mercury, 2 grs. Mix and use as gargle for throat and mouth, and for stomach canker, about 10 to 14 drops as often as the case may require, every hour if necessary until relieved.—BESS, Waukon, Iowa.

Now let me tell you what will keep your hair sweet and clean without cutting it off. Dampen your head—do not wet your hair—with either salt water or bay rum. Either of these are good for the hair. The strong salt water is the best thing that I know of to stop the hair from falling out. Don't sleep in a night-cap as it makes the head sweat. Now if your hair does not keep sweet consult your doctor for there is something the matter with you. Save your hair if possible for it is your crowning beauty.—HOPE SCHENCK.

"Della" asks for a cure for eczama. We tried a great many remedies and went to four different doctors and then cured it by bathing with salt and vinegar. For canker sores I have used equal parts of sugar and alum pulverized.—MRS. B., box 49, Horner, Calhoun county, Mich.

If "Old Soldier," or any one else would like back numbers of *Peterson's Magazine, Arthur's House Magazine* or *Youths Companion*, and will pay postage, they can be well supplied by sending their address to box 939, Tiffin, O.

"A Subscriber" says, "I have a little girl who is partly paralyzed, the cords under the knee seems to be drawn so that she cannot straighten her limb." I wish to tell her of a remedy that I used for the same trouble after suffering for six years, and I can walk as well as ever, although I was not paralyzed. It was skunk oil. Use in small quantities daily, just a little on the cords, only rubbing gently but very firmly and will have the child straighten the limb as much as possible during the operation. My nephew recovered the use of his limb by its use. We used to measure the length of the limb each day by a tape measure. It stimulates the child to keep the limb as straight as they can. If only a half inch is gained in a day or two it is encouraging. Skunks oil can be bought at any drug store.—W. L.

Recipes.

Bread Pudding.—Even with the most frugal and careful management pieces of stale bread are apt to accumulate. Use some of them by making a bread pudding for dessert. Break up enough small pieces to make 2 cups of crumbs; over them pour 1 qt. hot milk. When cold, and the bread is soft, add 1 beaten egg, 1 teaspoonful salt, a little nutmeg, 3 teaspoonfuls sugar, and a few raisins. Bake an hour or less till done. -M. A.

Cocoanut Cake-filling.—Use any good layer cake and bake in three layers, then take ½ cupful sour cream and let it be thick, ½ cupful cocoanut and ½ cupful white sugar. Stir together and put between layers and on top. Do not use sweet cream.

Chocolate Cake-filling.—Use confectioner's powdered sugar, and just water enough to dissolve, and stir in grated chocolate, as much as you like, some like more than others, flavor with vanilla, spread between layers and on top. I can't tell amount of sugar, which depends on size of cake. Try a large teacupful at first. It is nicer for cocoanut-filling than when eggs are used, and a great deal easier.—MRS. WITTER.

Biscuits.—One quart of butternilk, 2 scant tablespoonfuls of lard, one teaspoonful of salt, 1 scant teaspoonful of soda rubbed enough flour to make a soft dough. Rub the salt, soda and lard well in some of the flour and mix. Bake quickly.—MRS. J. C. EAGON.

Graham Griddle Cakes.—½ pt. of brown flour, half as much white ditto, 1 teaspoonful of salt (a little sugar, if liked), 1 oz. lard, melted in about ¾ pt. of buttermilk or sour milk, 2 eggs beaten light, and ½ teaspoonful of carbonate of soda dissolved in a tablespoonful of hot water. If no buttermilk can be had and fresh milk is used, cream of tartar must be added to the soda. —EK.

Now is the time to render lard. I will give my plan, which is: Cut the leaves up in small pieces and put in kettles. Put in a pint of water to No. 8 kettle full of lard. To this add two level teaspoonfuls of soda and do not stir unless you are obliged to. If you keep a slow fire you will not have to, and your lard will be as beautiful as snow and keep for a long time.

Graham Doughnuts.—To 1 pt. of good fresh buttermilk add 1 cupful of sugar, 2 eggs, a piece of butter the size of an egg, ½ teaspoonful of soda and graham flour enough to roll and cut, and fry. I tried the custard pies made of water when I had no milk, and thought they were splendid.—PRAIRIE NIGHTINGALE.

Citron Cake.—One cupful of butter, 2½ cupfuls of sugar; 1 of milk, 4 of sifted flour, and 2 heaping teaspoonfuls of baking powder and the whites of 9 eggs. Mix the butter and sugar together thoroughly, then stir the milk in slowly. Add the eggs beaten to a froth, and then the flour and baking powder, stirring until well mixed. Flavor with vanilla; put into the cake pan a layer of cake, then a layer of citron cut in thin strips. Alternate in this way until the cake sponge is all used.—M. M. S.

A Cure for Rheumatism.—Take pine pitch, melt and spread on heavy cloth; apply to the sole of the feet, changing once in two weeks. Any one afflicted with rheumatism will find by constantly wearing this a positive cure.

A SURE CURE FOR NEURALGIA.—Take common skunk's oil and rub on thoroughly. Two or three applications are a sure cure. It has been tried here and never failed. Alcohol rubbed on is a sure cure for chilblains.—NIXY.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION

MOTTO: *Of Ourselves we will be Masters.*

Pledge.

WE DO HEREBY PROMISE OURSELVES THAT FROM THIS TIME UNTIL WE ARE 21 YEARS OLD WE WILL NOT TASTE INTOXICATING LIQUORS OF ANY KIND, AND WE WILL EXERT ALL OF OUR INFLUENCE TO PREVENT THEIR USE BY OTHERS. WITNESS OUR NAMES:

NO PLACE GIVEN.	BEATRICE, NEB.	BARNWELL, S. C.
Edward Starks,	Maud Rickards,	Ham'ton Duncan
Mary Henderson,	Pearl D Day,	Albert Grover,
E Henderson,	A P Rickards,	Charley Creech,
Laura Henderson	Mattie M Elliott,	A H Holman,
Sophie Ratliff,	Carrie M Elliott,	E M Simon,
Alvia Ratliff,	Edwin M Elliott,	Miles Johnson,
Lizzie Ratliff,	Millie J Comer,	Richard Brown,
Mollie Brady,	Chas S Day,	G F Johnson,
Vina Stiltz,	CLARK'S RIDGE, MO.	Richard Ryan,
Annie Nance,	James Lupardus,	W A Allen,
James Nance,	Rudolph Bain,	S A Fix,
John Nance,	Regan Lupardus,	Ben Davies,
Hattie Wright,	W L Short,	Labaque Owens,
George Wright,	Ettie Kinder,	Mary Sanders,
May Wright,	Edgar Ewers,	J Afterway,
MILL CREEK, WIS.	Mary L Ewers,	Primas Scott,
Emmet Cook,	Nora Felton,	W H Sanders,
Alvan Cook,	Fronie Felton,	F D Nix,
Edgar Ewers,	Harry Bailey,	Fred Nix, jr,
Mary L Ewers,	John Ewers,	Henry Mack,
Nora Felton,	Elvert Ewers,	Henry Owens,
Fronie Felton,	D T Ewers,	Robt Thompson,
Harry Bailey,	ENDICOTT, NEB	Adam Thompson
John Ewers,	Mattie Coburn,	Annie Thompson
Elvert Ewers,	Thos Carmony,	George Owens,
D T Ewers,	Frank Carmony,	Oska L Dunbar,
ENDICOTT, NEB	Louie Carmony,	A P Mason,
Thos Carmony,	W S Carmony,	Ben Hayes,
Frank Carmony,	MARSEILLES, ILL.	Charles Muncree,
Louie Carmony,	Lucy M Johnson,	Sally McGuffin,
W S Carmony,	ENOS, MINN.	Harry Ashley,
MARSEILLES, ILL.	N P Luddington,	Geo Anderson,
Lucy M Johnson,	L W Luddington,	Gid Hazzle,
ENOS, MINN.	S Luddington,	ORWORTH, KAN.
N P Luddington,	Nettie Tolman,	Kirt Anderson,
L W Luddington,	Huldah Light,	Richard Trottie,
S Luddington,	Adell Hewitt,	Thomas Parson,
Nettie Tolman,	Ethie Otterson,	Adam Duncan,
Huldah Light,	Rena Light,	Clinton Dunbar,
Adell Hewitt,	Clara Phelps,	Henry Dunbar,
Ethie Otterson,	Mabel Allison,	Albert Dunbar,
Rena Light,	M McNaughton,	Richard Green,
Clara Phelps,	Ruth Tucker,	Gus Peachman,
Mabel Allison,	Lizzie Ball,	Jim Holman,
M McNaughton,	Rilla Dresser,	Fred Brooks,
Ruth Tucker,	Emma Dodge,	Louisa Mack,
Lizzie Ball,	Capitola Dodge,	Owens Brick,
Rilla Dresser,	Geonard Dodge,	Jim Mack,
Emma Dodge,	Warren Dodge,	Gill Dunbar,
Capitola Dodge,	STRAWBERRY PT. IA.	Piera Anderson,
Geonard Dodge,	Mellvina Barrett,	Danny Daniels,
Warren Dodge,	Johnny Mitchell,	Fred Hunter,
STRAWBERRY PT. IA.	James Jewett,	Frazer Allen,
Mellvina Barrett,	Mattie Barrett,	Albert Gilman,
Johnny Mitchell,	Andy Harris,	Fred Hay,
James Jewett,	Bert Smith,	Hunter Daniels,
Mattie Barrett,	Eddie Rossner,	Gil Gilman,
Andy Harris,	Minnie Rossner,	Wash Perisy,
Bert Smith,	Lyman Dexter,	Anson Hewitt,
Eddie Rossner,	Winnie Scott,	John Hewitt,
Minnie Rossner,	Nellie Rogers,	Win Phanix,
Lyman Dexter,	Earl Granger,	Andrew Jackson,
Winnie Scott,	Bettie Bowers,	Laura Phanix,
Nellie Rogers,	Nellie Keys,	Jim Robinson,
Earl Granger,	Bettie Bowers,	March Saddler,
Bettie Bowers,	Nellie Keys,	P B McKnight,
Nellie Keys,	Vertie Soucely,	Sam Green,
Vertie Soucely,	TOLEDO, O.	W W Adams,
TOLEDO, O.	E F Hill,	Duncan Owens,
E F Hill,	BRISTORIA, PA.	Addie Bell Roberts,
BRISTORIA, PA.	Wm McQuay,	Jim Barnwell,
Wm McQuay,	Morgan Tynders,	Dalis Ashley,
Morgan Tynders,	WELLSFIELD, O.	Melton Williams,
WELLSFIELD, O.	Bertie Poole,	M Williams,
Bertie Poole,	LOGAN, MICH.	L Peoples,
LOGAN, MICH.	Clara M Vande Werker,	Sidney Peoples,
Clara M Vande Werker,	Norman H Vande Werker,	Daniel Adams,
Norman H Vande Werker,	Jennie McGarvey,	Albert Hubank,
Jennie McGarvey,	CARRVILLE, CAL.	Willie Sumpter,
CARRVILLE, CAL.	Daisy H Spooner,	Welc me Jacobs,
Daisy H Spooner,	HARTVILLE, KAN.	Caesar Gantt,
HARTVILLE, KAN.	Frank Ellis,	Bert Keyser,
Frank Ellis,	Ernest Ellis,	Minnie Keyser,
Ernest Ellis,	Edith Ellis,	
Edith Ellis,		

Names this week, 270. Total, 2 866.

MY SHADOW.

BY ROBERT LOUIS STEPHENSON.

I have a little shadow that goes in and out with me,
And what can be the use of him is more than I can see.
He is very, very like me from the heels up to the head,
And I see him jump before me, when I jump into my bed.

The funniest thing about him is the way he likes to grow,
Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow;
For he sometimes shoots up taller like an India-rubber ball,
And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all.

He hasn't got a notion of how children ought to play,
And can only make a fool of me in every sort of way.
He stays so close beside me, he's a coward you can see;
I'd think shame to stick to nursie as that shadow sticks to me!

One morning, very early, before the sun was up,
I rose and found the shining dew on every buttercup;
But my lazy little shadow, like an arrant sleepy-head,
Had stayed at home behind me and was fast asleep in bed.

TAKING HIS PLACE.

BY LILLIE E. BARR.

"Oh, Charlie! Why did you do it? On my birthday, too! I am so sorry, for now you will miss all the fun of the Fourth." And as she spoke, Mary sat down, dangling her broad hat by one string and looked disconsolately at her brother, who had been sent to bed as a punishment.

"How was I to know that just a little bunch of firecrackers like that was going to smash the goblet? I did not think it would do anything but just lift it up some." "Who told you to do such a thing, Charlie?"

"Nobody. I thought of it myself. Oh, dear! I wish I had a grandma or an aunt or somebody like that!"

"What for, Charlie? I am sure nobody could be half as good as mamma."

"I like grandmas and aunts. Eddie Bates has a grandma, and she always gets him out of scrapes; and Tom Taylor has an aunt that does lots of things for him. People oughtn't to get married if they haven't got mothers and sisters to make grandmas and aunts for fellows who are always getting blamed for nothing at all."

"But, Charlie, you did break the glass."

"No, I didn't either; the firecracker broke it. Oh, dear, dear, I wish there wasn't any Fourth of July, nor firecrackers, nor nothing! What's the use of firecrackers if a fellow can't fire them off? It was real mean to let me spend all my money on firecrackers, and then not let me have any fun with 'em. There's my pinwheel, too. I promised Bates to fasten it to the top of the highest pole in his backyard to-night."

"I am so sorry, Charlie dear."

"And, Mary, I am so dreadfully hot. I have got a raging fever; I know I have."

"Why do you not say you are sorry?" suggested Mary.

"Didn't I say so?—over, and over, and over. And father just said he thought bed was the best place for boys who exploded firecrackers under goblets. If I was a father and wanted to kill a boy I'd do it out and out, and not roast him to death in bed on a Fourth of July. I wouldn't for millions of dollars send a poor boy to bed on his sister's eighth birthday." But what particular attention was due to his sister's eighth birthday Charlie did not explain.

"You knew the crackers would break the goblet."

"No, I didn't; I never saw them smash one. Didn't they bang, though?" And at the recollection Charlie's eyes grew bright, and a delighted expression illuminated his somber little face. The next moment, however, he was crying bitterly; and Mary, having watched him a moment, ran down stairs just in time to stop her father as he was going out.

"Papa please forgive Charlie. He is so sorry, and he wants to go out so much!"

"He must have a lesson, Mary," that will teach him not to be so destructive." But he added, smiling, "If you choose to take his place, Charlie may come out."

Mary bounded away to her brother's room. "Papa says you may go out, Charlie. Get up, dear."

Charlie needed no second bidding, and he asked no questions. Five minut

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions answers and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc., etc. Communications should be written legibly, and on one side of the paper only, and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany the communication.

Information Wanted.

SINGLAR DISEASES.—We have a singular disease among young cattle. The first symptoms are a dumpishness and a grating of the teeth. In about 24 to 48 hours they take to whirling around and bawling and soon fall down to rise no more. After taking the hide off we made an examination. We find the manifold portion of the stomach packed full and dry and inflamed in some parts. The back intestines were almost empty. One man has lost four, another five. The four have been fed on frost-bitten hay, and possibly might not have had enough water, a few days back, during a severe storm. We think of dry murrain or something of that kind. Will some one tell us what is the matter and the remedy for it?—F. L. COOPER, Correctionville, Iowa. [Your animals were attacked with gastritis, or inflammation of the stomach, superinduced no doubt by the kind of food eaten. The cause is some sudden changes in the food, or condition. The eating of mouldy hay will cause it; also too much grass in the spring, clover or green corn, an excess of corn meal or too much dry or heating food. The system be comes nervous, the eye glaring, madness, staggers or fits, or stupidity and palsy. The animal sometimes moans loudly. To treat —Give laudanum two ounces; castor oil, one and a half pints. Give at one dose. When the fever-ish symptoms have abated, give this: Sulphate of magnesia, ten ounces; sulphuric acid, 20 drops; quinine, 30 grains; mix with a quart of water for one dose. It is a dangerous disease, and needs prompt action. Keep the animal quiet after this, and as soon as the appetite returns, feed sweet hay, boiled turnips, etc.—ED.]

CATTLE WITH COUGH—SICK CALF.—Will the editor of the BLADE FARM or some of its readers tell me what is the matter with my cattle. They have a cough, froth at the mouth, grit their teeth and refuse to eat their food. I have one calf almost dead. What can I do to cure them.—T. J. COOK, Hopkins, Mo. [What do you feed your cattle? If much new corn, change the feed. Looks as if your cattle had contracted cold, and are suffering from attack of nasal and bronchial affection, as well as feed that is not agreeable. Dissolve half a pound of salts in a quart of boiling water, add a teacupful of molasses and give before it gets cold. The throat and breast should be well rubbed with mustard, stirred up in boiling water. After the salt and molasses have had their effect, let your animals inhale steam from a hot bran mash in a nose bag. Your cattle should be kept in a warm place with clean bedding. When cattle get poor examine the skin closely for lice, and if found use some of the remedies recently given in the BLADE. We cannot say what ails your calf, as you do not give the least idea of how it acts nor do you say how old it is.—ED.

LUMP ON HIND LEG.—I have a 5-year-old horse that has a lump on his hind leg, about three inches below the knee-cap. Some said it would make a curb, and I got some liniment and blistered, and I think I have got it cured, but there is a small lump still there, and it shows plainly. If the editor or some reader will tell me how to take the lump away, I would be very thankful.—A. CAMPBELL, Jerusalem, Ohio. [Blisters are common remedy applied in such cases, but are not, as a rule, attended with permanent benefit. The application of cold water and compresses secured by means of bandaging the legs, prove the most efficacious. Since you have the lump reduced, a permanent removal of the lump may be made if water compress and bandages be now used.—ED.]

FISH COMMISSIONERS.—Would you be kind enough to tell me who are the fish commissioners of Indiana, and who I must write to in order to get the German carp?—G. BENNETT, Westchester, Indiana. [Calvin Fletcher, Spencer, Ind.—ED.]

STRAINED ANKLE.—Can you inform me through the FARM how to doctor my horse's ankle? Last summer he sprained it and the ankle swelled up three times its natural size, I could never get the swelling reduced, and it is now left as hard as a bone and feverish all the time, causing pain to him.—JAMES A. BISHOP, Jarette, Kansas. [Old cases like these are hard to overcome, but the horse may be cured by proper care and treatment. To subdue the fever-s pimply this: Spirits of camphor, 1 ounce; vinegar, 4 ounces; water, 1 pint. When the fever is all out, rub with the following: Mercurial ointment, 2 ounces; creosote, 1 drachm; solution of ammonia, 2 ounces; linseed oil, 6 ounces. The use of this persistently will no doubt effect a cure. The horse must have rest. This is necessary if you wish to bring him around all right.—ED.]

WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.—I bought a pair of mules last spring, one of which had a wart on its ear about one inch from its head about the size of the end of a man's thumb, but as the weather got warmer it would enlarge a little. It did not seem to affect the mule. I put the mule in the stable one evening in July seemingly nothing wrong with it, but next morning the ear that the wart was on was swelled and also its eye was swelled nearly shut. The swelling kept spreading towards its other ear and eye and continued till it joined entirely round its head without effecting any other part. The whole head swelled up about twice its usual size. After standing so for three or four days it began to run all over the head, the wart dropped out and the mule lived exactly nine days from first taken. I would like to know what was the matter with the mule and whether the wart was the cause of the affliction. Would be much obliged for an answer through the BLADE of which I am a reader. [The cause of the swelling was no doubt from morbidity or impure condition of the blood. Had treatment been resorted to in time it would have got well. The proper treatment would have been first, to have taken sublimed sulphur, two pounds; sesqui-sulphuret of antimony in powder, one pound, given in doses of a tablespoonful twice a day in the feed. Second. A hot linseed meal poultice on the head, and afterward washing the sores with zinc and water—two drachms of zinc to a quart of water.—ED.]

FISH COMMISSIONERS.—See per WEEKLY BLADE you offer to give names of fish commissioners of any state. Please give names of such in both states of Missouri and Kansas.—SUBSCRIBER, Ironton. [Missouri—Dr. J. G. W. Steedman, St. Louis; Col. John Reed, Lexington; Dr. John A. Logan, St. Joseph. Kansas—W. S. Gile, Wemango.—ED.]

SUFFERING COWS.—My cows are suffering from some to me unknown cause. They act like a foundered horse, appear to be stiff behind as well as in front, and have a great hankering for old rags or sticks. Will gnaw the manger boards and stanchions, fence rails, or almost any woody substance. Three of them got so bad last spring that I had to kill them. Could not see as there was anything the matter, only they got so lame they would not get up. Commenced to get lame while running in the pasture in the summer. I feed in winter no grain; hay twice a day, and water once a day until they come in; then from two to three quarts of dry corn meal once a day. Please tell me the cause of their eagerness to eat bi rds, etc., and the cause of their lameness, through your paper. They do not appear to shrink in their milk, but appear to shrink or shrivel up in flesh, and their hair becomes gummy like, they do not lick themselves much, and are so sore and stiff that it appears to hurt them. Will groan when going down hill if they walk fast or are hurried. —F. C. JONES, Greenfield, Pa. [Your cows are suffering from Anæmia, a condition of the blood which there is either a deficiency of blood, or a diminution of some of its important constituents, especially the red blood corpuscles. You should give a greater variety of diet. Monotony of diet is injurious. Without a change, cattle become debilitated, animals get scant of flesh, hide bound, coat starting, appetite irregular or ravenous, pulse feeble and are easily fatigued. To treat your cattle—First dissolve half a pound of salts in a quart of boiling water; add a teacupful of molasses and give before it gets cold. A linseed oil physic will also answer. After the medicine has acted, give this tonic: Sulphate of iron, two drachms; powdered nux vomica, one drachm; powdered gentian, one ounce. Give this daily in dry food. After one week it should be suspended for a week and then resumed for one week more. Give food to your cattle in small quantities and as frequently as they will eat it well up. They must be well fed, well housed and well cleaned. After your cattle have recovered their appetites and look healthy, give to each cow every third day during a period of nine days, flour of sulphur eight ounces; ginger, half an ounce. This will dispel rheumatic affections. Be sure to keep the cattle dry and warm.—ED.]

Answers to Inquirers.

BARBED WIRE WOUNDS—INJURIES FROM FORKS, NAILS, ETC.—Take a dish and put in it a handful of salt, and water sufficient to make a little brine. Then take a sponge, if the cut is very sore, and sponge it clean with the salt and water. Then fill the wound with salt, by placing all the salt on the sponge it will hold, and putting it in the wound. This takes all the poison out. The horse does not feel pain when the wound is salted. For injuries from forks or nails, take a p n and put coals of fire in it, after which put wood on the live coals, and when the smoke rises place a funnel over it. Then hold the wounded part as near to the smoke as possible for about 25 minutes. If the wound is not better next morning, smoke it again. I had a man who had a fork penetrate the finger joint. I told him to come in the house. I smoked the injured part, and it gave no more pain and did not bother him. I think the BLADE the best paper I take. I take ten weeklies and one daily. —H. N. RYDER, Carisco, Mich.

Barns and Water Tanks—A Sensible Idea.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

Knowing that a very common mistake is made by farmers and stock raisers in preparing their barns and water tanks for winter, I wish to give the public the benefit of my experience. A few years ago I helped to put up a wind mill where I now live. The experts who fixed the well, laid pipe and arranged the tanks, on leaving, said to me: "Now, when winter comes, get sawdust and pack the house tank; also make a box around the barn tank and fill it with manure or sawdust." Well, I neglected the house tank, but fixed up the barn tank nicely. We had a hard winter, and my barn tank froze hard. I chopped ice all winter, and nearly ruined the tank. But the house tank did not freeze a half inch of ice at a time all winter, and I could break it with a pail every time. This was a mystery to me, as I had some times two and three inches of ice to cut from the tank at the barn. I concluded to leave the house tank unpacked, and have never had a particle of trouble with it. Last winter was as cold as any I ever saw, and my house tank did not freeze so but what I could break the ice with a pail. I have finally come to the conclusion that a box made around the tank with a cover all tight, top of box two inches high er than the tank, leaving a vacuum above and around the tank, is better than all the packing a man can get. The space around the tank need not be more than three inches clear, so that a rough, square box can be made at the cost of $1, with two covers if necessary, and the tank is fixed for winter and summer. As a proof of my theory, I will cite the Alaskan Indians who construct their winter huts of moose hides made double, leaving a space of from one to three inches between the sides, in these huts they pass the long Arctic winters that begin about October 1 and end with April. —N. I. THOMPSON, Keelersville, Mich.

Right-Handed and Left-Handed.

Kansas Farmer: Every farmer and every laboring man ought to accustom themselves to working both ways—that is, either left-handed or right-handed, whichever may be more convenient at the time. It is often exceedingly awkward for a person to be capable of working with only one hand forsooth all the time. This is particularly noticeable in cases of felling trees and in using forks. If a person has to fell a tree and is left handed only or right handed only, the stump will be an ill-shaped object, but if the chopper can handle his ax both ways his work will be neatly done. When using a fork, it is often necessary to throw the hay or straw, or whatever one is working with, to the side opposite the one which is to our hand, when we are only single-handed; but if we can change hands readily, the work is easily done on either side.

There are a great many instances where training of the kind we suggest comes in play usefully. The best time to learn is in boyhood. Boys should be taught how to work early and they should be taught to advantage, so that they will be ready to adapt themselves to situations as they come. It is not hard to learn any kind of movement of the body and limbs when they are young.

As to who is right handed and who left handed in work, "a right handed man is a man who takes hold of a hoe, a rake, a spade, or a fork, with the right hand down and the left hand up or nearest the body. A man who habitually puts his left hand down, or, for instance, the man who places his right hand at the top of a spade, and grasps the handle or snake with his left hand, is a left handed man. And so with an ax. A right handed man and left handed man can work together in cutting down a tree. If they were both right-handed or both left-handed, they could not do this unless one chopped on one side of the tree and the other on the other side. And so it is in loading earth into a wagon. If the men stand face one should be left-handed and the other right-handed. In hoeing a row of corn the right-handed man will walk on the left side of the row, while the left-handed man will walk on the right side of it.

Hybridizing.

The English papers of last summer had a good deal to say about some experiments that had been made on wheat with a view to hybridizing it. The attempts were said to have been successful so far as could be judged, the resulting wheat being hardier and promising a better yield than that of the ordinary sorts of English wheat. It would seem that even this ingenious idea has been thrown into the shade by a more recent effort of an experimenter nearer home. He is said to have demonstrated the practicability of growing the wheat berry upon the stalk of the rye plant, obtaining a superior kind of grain from soils that are far from being the best adapted to wheat culture. It is well known that rye will grow on thin soil and withstands bad weather in winter with less damage than wheat does. If the claim to success in this experiment can be substantiated, we may be on a partial revolution in our processes of bread-raising which will involve greater certainty for the crop on areas now devoted to wheat culture. It will also permit of a large extension of those areas, especially towards the North, where the seasons are too cool on the average to make wheat-raising more than uncertain.

Fence Posts.

The following is given as a good process for preparing fence posts by an experimentalists in such matters: Take seasoned oak posts, five inches square at one end and two by five inches at the other, say about seven feet in length; first give them a good coat of oil, and a few days after set them in a can of boiling tar for about ten minutes, then take them out and sand them. The tar can should be about four feet deep and large enough to hold four posts set on ends. He claims that posts thus treated have been found practically uninjured after fourteen years in the ground.

Hybredized Wheat.

The result of the experiments that are being made to hybredize wheat and rye are described in the January *Century*. It is hoped to produce a plant that will yield a wheat kernel on a rye stalk, and that will grow on lands that have been worn out for wheat culture. A plant has already been obtained that promises to fulfill all these requirements. The stalk closely resembles rye and the kernel wheat, but the latter has not yet been produced in sufficient quantities to ascertain its flouring qualities.

Wheat Land.

There is much wheat land still uncultivated. It is estimated that there are 100,000,000 acres of land on the Pacific coast that are especialy adapted to wheat culture. Of this California has 35,000,000, or one-fourth of the whole; Oregon has 18,000,000 acres; Washington territory has 16,000,000 acres; Colorado and Idaho, 10,000,000 each; Montana, Utah and Wyoming, 7,000,000 each, and the greater part of all this land yet has untouched.

Shingles in Lime.

The *Country Gentleman* says: "In all our experiments in dipping shingles in rather thin wash, made from fresh or sharp lime before laying, the result has been quite favorable. The lime hardens the shingles and causes them to last much longer. For a few months it is well to let the rain water run to waste, the lime rendering it hard."

Food for Thought.

Two thousand years ago cereals were grown in Great Britain. In that country they are still grown in the highest perfection. Here there is food for thought for the farmers of the older portions of this country, where, in a general way, cereal-growing is no longer a success.

Notes for Husbandmen.

All young animals long for succulent food.

Grapevines may be trimmed at any time during the winter.

In selecting eggs for hatching only the medium-sized should be chosen.

The Russirn apricot is said to succeed admirably in our northern states.

Linseed meal fed fo stock occasionally is beneficial, and will keep the hair bright.

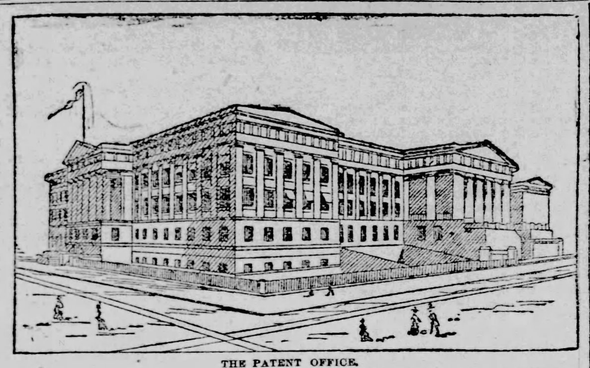
Selling milk at 3 cents per quart is equivalent to getting 28 cents per pound for butter.

A large cow needs more food than a small one, and one giving milk more than one that is dry.

Excluding Alaska, there are 1,850,070,400 acres in the United States, of which 440,000,000 acres are forest.

Let the law, "survival of the fittest," have full sway on the stock farm—that is, slaughter and dispose of the poorest and save the best for breeders.

It is stated that borers can be kept from young trees for some time by the simple expedient of wrapping some cheap muslin around the trees at the collar.

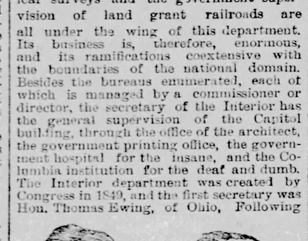


THE PATENT OFFICE.

THE U. S. PATENT OFFICE.

Men, Machinery, Models — Growth of Invention and the Vast Accumulation of Models—Some of the Men Who Have Made Fortunes and Benefitted Mankidd.

The Interior department is nearest, in its relations to the people, of all the departments of the United States government. The Public Land system, the Pension office, with its enormous disbursements, the Patent office, the Indian bureau, the bureau of Education, the Census bureau, the Geological surveys and the government supervision of land grant railroads are all under the wing of this department. Its business is, therefore, enormous, and its ramifications coextensive with the boundaries of the national domain. Besides the bureaus enumerated, each of which is managed by a commissioner or director, the secretary of the Interior has the general supervision of the Capitol building, through the office of the architect, the government printing office, the government hospital for the insane, and the Columbia institution for the deaf and dumb. The Interior department was created by Congress in 1849, and the first secretary was Hon. Thomas Ewing, of Ohio, Following

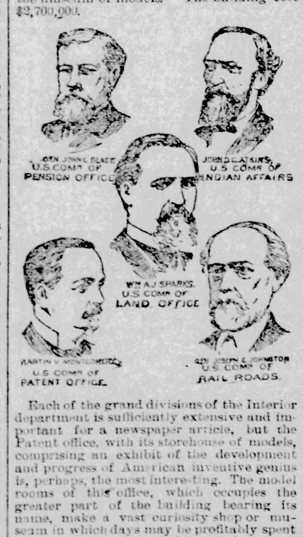


H. M. MULDROW ASST SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

L.Q.C. LAMAR SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

came Thomas M. T. McKenna, of Pennsylvania; A. H. H. Stuart, of Virginia; Robert McClelland, of Michigan; J. Thompson, of Mississippi; C. B. Smith, of Indiana; J. P. Usher, of Indiana; James Harlan, of Iowa; O. H. Browning, of Illinois; J. D. Cox, of Ohio; Columbus Delano, of Ohio; Zachariah Chandler, of Michigan; Carl Schurz, of Missouri; Samuel J. Kirkwood, of Iowa, and Henry M. Teller, of Colorado, in the order named. The secretary, who is *ex-officio* a Cabinet officer, receives a salary of $8,000 per annum, and the assistant secretary $4,000. The commissioner of Pensions receives $5,000 salary, the commissioner of Patents $4 500, the commissioner of the General Land office $4,000, the commissioner of Indian Affairs $4,000, the commissioner of Railroads $4,-200 and the commissioner of Education $3,-000. The latter office is at present unfilled, no appointment having been made since the resignation of Commissioner Eaton.

The headquarters of the Interior department are in the colossal structure known as the Patent office, though owing to the vast requirements and encroachments of the latter office, several of the other divisions have been driven to seek quarters elsewhere. This building is one of the largest and most substantial of the government edifices. It occupies an entire square, or four acres of ground, which was originally set apart by L'Enfant in his plan of the city for a great national church. Its erection was begun in 1837 and the main division completed in 1842. Later three wings were added on the north, east and west. The building is of the Doric style of architecture, two stories high, with rustic basement, and is 75 feet high. The main entrance, on F street, is through a massive portico of two rows of huge columns, designed after the Parthenon in Athens, and is of exactly the same dimensions as its classic model. A lofty flight of broad granite steps leads to the portico. There is an interior court yard, ornamented with fountains and flower beds. The entire structure contains two hundred apartments, besides the extensive halls of the museum of models. The building cost $2,700,000.

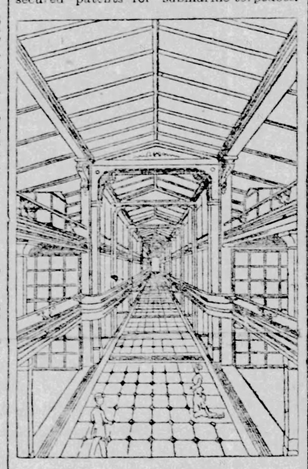


Each of the grand divisions of the Interior department is sufficiently extensive and important for a newspaper article, but the Patent office, with its storehouse of models, comprising an exhibit of the development and progress of American inventive genius is, perhaps, the most interesting. The model rooms of this office, which occupies the greater part of the building bearing its name, make a vast curiosity shop or museum in which days may be profitably spent by any one interested in the history of any branch of mechanical art or science. In 1790 Congress passed "An act to promote the useful arts," which was the first stimulus to inventive genius through government protection. This act clothed the secretary of State, the secretary of War and the Attorney General, with plenary power to issue certificates of merit, which were to countersigned by the President and become letters patent. The first patent issued was to Samuel Hopkins, July 31, 1790, for making pot or pearl ashes, and the second invention that received this exalted favor was a hoe shank, and the inventor was from the part of Yankeedom which has ever since been most prolific in inventive skill—the state of Massachusetts. In 1802 the office of commissioner of Patents was created, and the Patent bureau made a branch of the State department. Up to this time the number of patents issued yearly was so small and the expense of running the office so comparatively large that a proposition was discussed to let each state take care of its own inventors and inventions, but the complications foreseen as likely to follow the adoption of such a plan caused it to be abandoned. For many forty years from this period the expenses of the office largely exceeded the receipts from fees, but this, like the mail system, was deemed of such importance to the public and to the welfare of the country that no thought was ever entertained of discontinuing the expenditure. In 1875 the office began to be self-sustaining, and every year since that time there has been a large excess of revenue over expenses.

From 1790 to 1809, the average number of patents per annum was less than 250, most of which were for agricultural implements. From 1810 to 1820 the inventive mind seems to have been directed to improvements in the machinery for cotton manufactures which Arkwright had inaugurated in England. As early as 1797, however, Eli Whitemore, of Cambridge, Mass., had invented the machine for making cards for the carding of cotton, and the first operation of converting raw cotton into finished cloth, had been commenced in 1813 and carried forward under all the difficulties incident to the old fashioned processes, until Slater, and Lowell and Mason had perfected their immortal appliances. From 1820 to 1845, the business of the office grew rapidly, the yearly issue of patents averaging 7,250. In 1875, the first year of excess of fees over expenses, 14,587 patents were issued, and the increase has continued until for the year ending June 30, 1885, the applications filed, including re-issues, numbered 35,655, upon which 22,298 patents were granted, realizing $1,074,874 83, and involving an expenditure in the maintenance of the office of $964,132.11, a profit of over $140,000. This surplus is now covered into the treasury. As it represents a tax upon the inventive genius of the country it should not exist, but the fees for granting patents should be reduced to a figure that would wipe it out. The cost of procuring a patent is no trifling sum to a poor inventor, and many are deterred for lack of it from pushing their discoveries into public notice and use.

The model room of the Patent office consists of four immense halls extending north, south, east and west in the second story of the building. The space thus occupied is about 1,200 feet by 500 wide. Here on all sides are cases arranged tier upon tier, in which are placed on exhibition about 200,000 models varying in size from the tiniest tack-nail to a locomotive, and in importance from a mouse-trap to a telephone transmitter. It is a veritable museum, excelled in variety only by the National museum connected with the Smithsonian Institution, to which was recently removed some of the the interesting relics once stored here, including the identical printing press used by Benjamin Franklin, the coat worn by Gen. Jackson at the battle of New Orleans and a number of revolutionary relics. The first collection of models comprising everything received between 1793 and 1836, numbering in all about 4,000, was destroyed by the fire which burned the old postoffice building, then also used for the Patent office, December 15, 1835. These were never restored. For some years after, until the present building was erected, the office occupied the building now known as the City Hall—the District court-house. The fire of September, 1877, which came so near demolishing the Interior department building, destroyed 80,000 models, most of which have since been restored from the drawings, at a cost of $250,000. The repairs to the building which have been going on ever since, and were finished less than a year ago, have cost nearly three times that sum.

Among the important inventions in the history of our country a few may be mentioned. As the age of 46 Franklin secured his patent for the lightning-rod, the utility of which has been fully recognized. Eli Whitney, of Mass., at the age of 28, invented the cotton-gin, having the necessity of it suggested to him while teaching school in Georgia. This machine has reached such perfection that one of them now performs the work required of 5,000 persons in Whitney's time. Robert Fulton, at the same age of 28, invented his application of steam to the propulsion of boats, and afterwards secured patents for submarine torpedoes.



HALL OF MODEL ROOM.

Jethro Wood, at 38, invented the plow-share, which had previously been a stick of wood plated with iron. Wood, however, made himself a pauper in prosecuting infringers of his patent, and died with no other reward for his benefaction than the favorable judgment of a court upon his claim. Thomas Blanchard, a boy of 18, invented a tack-machine, and afterwards the ponderous stern-wheel by which the steamboats of the Western rivers are propelled. At 55 he also obtained patents for the turning lathe now in use throughout the world for turning irregular shaped articles, such as gun stocks, shoe lasts, hat blocks, etc.

Ross Winans, of Baltimore, was only 27 when he took out his first patent for springs upon wagons, and he it was who originated, designed and patented the patent railway car double truck, for long passenger cars, now invariably used, and introduced by him into Russia. Cyrus H. McCormick is seen at the London Exhibition of 1851, showing to an astonished world the operations of his harvesting machines, which perform, with the aid of a boy, ten times the work of a man in a single day. Charles Goodyear, from the land of brass locks and wooden nutmegs, at 39 discovers the process of vulcanizing rubber, by accidentally mixing a bit of rubber and sulphur upon a hot stove. The discovery proved a bonanza to him, although he paid Daniel Webster a hundred thousand dollars as a single fee, to enable him to establish his claim in the courts. Samuel Finley Breese Morse was 40 years of age when he exhibited his first drawings of the telegraph. It took him fourteen years, and any amount of money and trouble, to establish his priority as the inventor of this greatest of all modern inventions. Elias Howe, a machinist of Massachusetts, was only 27 when the world hailed him as the benefactor of the sewing-woman and inventor of the sewing machine. He too made himself poor in the contest for the originality of the invention, but the courts gave judgments in his favor, and he died at the end of the second reissue of his patents, with several millions. The names of Lyal and Eads, and Ellicott and Bell, and their achievements, are fresh in the minds of all newspaper readers.

It would be interesting to go over a list of all the inventions patented and see what novel and sometimes trifling things have been granted this protection. Thousands upon thousands of patents have been issued for devices that are never heard of after and never bring a penny of return to the misguided individual who has thus foolishly parted with his money. If there existed any record of the men who have attempted to "invent" perpetual motion the list would be a formidable one. There is in Washington to-day a man who has spent several years upon it, is long since exploded delusion, and who firmly believes he has "got it." He has importuned the writer time and again to take a financial interest in the matter, with the assurance of big returns, but fears to show his wonderful machine lest somebody steal it from him. The man is not considered insane either, though of course he is a crank. The average time required for obtaining a patent is about six months. Many are issued in a much shorter time and many require longer, but this is the usual calculation. Every examiner or assistant examiner when an application comes into his hands places himself upon the offensive against it. He searches the records and examines the files of drawings over and over again the firm belief that he will find some previous invention covering the case. This is chiefly because of the great number of patents in every class covering almost every conceivable improvement or point; but it is characteristic of every government department coming before it in the nature of a claim of any kind is fought against, as a matter of course. There are in Washington over seventy-five firms and individual attorneys who make a specialty of this branch of "practice," besides hundreds of others throughout the country, and most of them make a good deal of money.

Interesting to the G. A. R.

LAFYASTTE, Ind., Jan. 22.—Adjt. Gen. Koontz says that many soldiers in the Soldiers' Home at Dayton, O., have a good deal of money or property, some of them having saved $10,000 or $15,000 by judiciously investing their pensions. Many poor soldiers are kept out of the home, there being no room for them, while many undeserving ones are suffered to remain at the government's expense. The adjutant general thinks Congress should remove such soldiers from the home as are comfortably provided for, to make room for others that are needy.

News of the Week.

THE BREWERS WIN.

The State Must Pay Damages to Persons Engaged in the Brewing Business Previous to 1880.

TOPEKA, KAN., Jan. 22.—Judge Brewer filed a lengthy opinion yesterday in the case brought by John Walruff, of Lawrence, for the removal of certain proceedings commenced against him in Douglas county to the United States Circuit court. The opinion is regarded with much favor by the brewers, as, in effect, it says that the state should pay for property which it has rendered useless. The judge says: "The facts upon which the foundation question in this case rests are few and simple. Between 1870 and 1874 the defendants constructed a brewery in Lawrence, Kan. The building, machinery and features were designed and adapted for the making of beer, and nothing else, for which purpose they are worth $50,-000; for any other purpose, not to exceed $5,000; at the time of the erection of the building and up to 1880 the making of beer was as legal and as free from tax, license or other restriction as the milling of flour; in that year a constitutional amendment was adopted prohibiting the manufacture of beer, except for medicinal, scientific and mechanical purposes; in 1881 and 1885 laws were enacted to carry the prohibition into effect. Under these laws a permit was essential for the manufacture for the excepted purposes to the defendants. This permit was refused. An injunction was thereupon sued out from the District court enjoining defendants absolutely from the manufacture of beer. Thus the defendants are prohibited from using their property for the purposes for which alone it is designed, adapted and valuable, and are required, without compensation, to surrender $45,000 of value which they had acquired under every solemn unlimited guarantee of protection to property, which constitutional declaration and the underlying thought of just and stable government could give. The action in which this injunction was granted they now seek to remove to this court, and insist that no matter what the state may think or do, the 14th amendment to the Federal constitution does give protection, or at least that they are entitled to the opinion and judgment of the Federal courts upon the question whether that portion of the 14th amendment which forbids a state to deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, and to deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws, is not violated by this action of the state as respects them.

"It is idle to deny that the question here presented is one of difficulty and grave importance. Is a state potent through the forms of law to take from a citizen by direct action the value of his property without compensation?"

The judge then referred to various decision of the higher courts touching arbitrary legislation, the condemnation and confiscation of property, and establishing the fact that the case in point presents a federal question, the amount in controversy being over $500, and says that the case is removable.

Returning to the question involved, Judge Brewer says that debarring a man by express prohibition from the use of his property for the sake of the public is a taking of private property for public uses, and that it is the power to use, and not the mere title, which gives value to property. He asserts that national equity as well as constitutional guarantee forbids such a taking of private property for the public good without compensation, and after rehearsing the opinions of other courts in indorsement of his position, concludes in substance as follows:

"In view of what has hitherto fallen from my pen in other cases, it may be unnecessary to add anything further; yet, to guard against any possible misapprehension, as well as to indicate that my views, as expressed upon other questions has not changed, let me say that I do not in the least question the power of the state to absolutely prohibit the manufacture of beer, or doubt that such prohibition is potential as against any one proposing in the future to engage in such manufacture. Any one thus engaging does so at his peril, and cannot invoke the protection of the fourteenth amendment, or demand the consideration and judgment of the federal courts. All that I hold is that property, within the meaning of that amendment, includes both the right and title to use; that when the right to use in a given way is vested in a citizen it cannot be taken from him for the public good without compensation. Beyond any doubt the state can prohibit defendants from continuing their business of brewing, but before it can do so it must pay the value of the property destroyed."

In reference to the point which has been raised in Kansas and Iowa, that jurisdiction in the federal courts of such proceedings meant the nullification of prohibitory laws, the judge says there could be no greater mistake. Experience has shown that those courts enforce laws as strictly as any, and generally with a severer hand.

KANSAS AND IOWA.

The Fight for Prohibition—Effect of Judge Brewer's Decision.

LEAVENWORTH, KAS., Jan. 23.—The liquor sellers and dealers are rejoicing over the decision of Judge Brewer, of the United States Circuit court, in the case of the state against John Walruff, the Lawrence brewer, to the effect that the state should pay Walruff $50,000 for his brewery, or let him proceed with the manufacture of beer. In effect, the decision declares that the state must pay for all property rendered useless by the prohibitory law, and it is here that the decision covers not only brewers and distilleries, but vineyards, which aggregate an immense amount of value.

County Attorney Wheat has been served with a writ requiring him to appear before the State Supreme court and show cause why he should not be removed from office for refusing to enforce the prohibitory law in Leavenworth county.

Prohibition in Iowa.

DES MOINES, Jan. 20.—The State Temperance Alliance, in session here, to-day received reports from the different Congressional districts as to the enforcement of prohibition and elected officers for the ensuing year. The secretary reported a general enforcement of the law in most parts of the state. He announced that 701 saloons have been reported by justices of the peace closed; that 637 towns have reported a majority of the population in favor of the enforcement, and that about $6,000 in fines have been paid by violators of the prohibitory law in justices' courts alone.

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 23.—The Prohibitionists of the state had a mass convention here, and discussed measures for the enforcement of the prohibitory law. Over 500 delegates were present, and earnest speeches were made by representative Prohibitionists of the state. The Hon. George L. Finn, of Taylor county, presided during the forenoon, and the Rev. Dr. Magoun, of Iowa college, during the afternoon. A mass meeting was held in the evening, at which addresses were delivered by Gov. Larrabee, Mrs. J. Ellen Foster and others. It was decided to raise a fund of $50,000 to aid in enforcing the prohibitory law.

Woman's Suffrage—Editor Stead.

CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—At the monthly meeting of the Cook county Woman's Suffrage society, a paper was read by Mrs. Ahrens on the subject of "Women, the Moral Protector of Man." Speeches were made by Sen. Castle, W. S. Herbert, Major W. F. Singleton, and others, on the question of suffrage as viewed from the different standpoints of educational qualification, school suffrage, etc. The officers of the society were empowered to meet with the officials of other women's associations of the city, with a view to forming a committee to take measures for the protection of young girls who come to the city in search of work. The following resolution, offered by Mrs. Singleton, was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the release from prison of Mr. William T. Stead, the English martyr to the cause of social purity, is in itself a source of profound gratification to us; but we rejoice chiefly in the fact that it was compelled by a popular demand, which arose from criminals in high places who had deliberately perverted the forms of justice to wreak vengeance upon a man of purest principles dared not disregard."

A Liquor Case for Roscoe Conkling.

ATLANTA, Jan. 20.—New disclosures are expected daily in the legal quarrel over prohibition in Atlanta. It is asserted that the liquor men have arranged for an appeal to the United States Supreme court, in error from the State Supreme court of Georgia, and that Roscoe Conkling is the man who is to take charge of the case from that point, providing he can be prevailed upon to do so.

Randall's the Boy.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 19.—The Randallites swept everything at last night's caucuses and to-day's conventions. In this city he captured the state executive committee, delegates to the state convention and councilmen. Randall will control the state and city committees and name the candidates for state and municipal offices.

Gen. Rawley Dying.

CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—For the last month Gen. W. R. Rawley, Gen. Grant's old military secretary, has been lying ill at the residence of his son-in-law, J. G. Clenats, in this city. He is not expected to recover, and the physicians give very little encouragement.

Morrill denied that there had been any failure on the part of the treasury officials

FORTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.

SENATE.—Hawley, from the committee on military affairs, reported a joint resolution, appointing Gen. John F. Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, as one of the managers of the National Soldiers' Home, in the place of Gen. McClellan, deceased. The resolution was passed.

Morrill, from the committee on finance, reported a resolution extending the custom house investigation ordered for the Port of New York, to such other ports as the committee might deem best.

Harrison's resolution to admit Mr. Moody, of Dakota, to the floor of the Senate, was laid before the Senate. Vest said he yielded to no man in courtesy to a political or personal opponent; but thought the people whom Mr. Moody represented had been courteous to the Senate, and Vest believed the courtesy should be reciprocal. Those people had voted against the deliberate parliamentary action of Congress and had taken action that Vest declared to be revolutionary. He denied that Dakota was a state—either *de jure* or *de facto*—or that it could become so without the authority of Congress. Referring to Harrison's allusion to Thomas H. Benton, of Missouri, Vest denied that there was any analogy between the case of the admission of Missouri and this case presented for Dakota. Mr. Benton had discharged his duty as a Senator, and Missouri took pride in his distinguished public services, but Vest did not agree with Benton, living, and did not agree with him dead. It would be peculiar, he said, if Utah should come here with a constitution, "republican in form," and thought Harrison's presence in the Senate would be necessary. He knew of no precedent for the proposition that would be adopted, as it was part of the programme agreed on by the committee on Territories.

Harrison denied that it was part of any "programme." The resolution was introduced by himself without any reference to the committee. He defended Judge Moody against aspersions which Harrison said had been cast on him by Vest. Harrison denied that there was anything exceptional in the course pursued by Dakota to gain admission. It had never been said that the like course pursued by other territories had been disrespectful to Congress The 263 000 American citizens in Dakota, who had combined in a respectful petition for admission to the Union, were entitled to respectful treatment. There was nothing in their character or conduct to warrant the coupling of Dakota with Utah. Harrison briefly reviewed the case of Utah, and urged that courtesy warrants the admission to the floor.

Saulsbury moved to amend Harrison's resolution by adding, "but the courtesy hereby extended shall not be considered as any recognition of Dakota to admission as a state into the Union."

Vest said he had not been personal, as Harrison's remarks implied. Had he wished to be personal he could present columns of vituperation that would put to shame the worst billingsgate, all of which had been published against him (Vest) in the newspapers of Dakota. He had no objection to the Senate filling up the sofas around the chamber, but it should not be done under the impression that there was precedent for it. He emphatically denied such precedent.

Ingalls's resolution was placed before the Senate, calling on the secretary of the treasury for information as to what proportion of the $10,000,000 bond call for February 1, was held by national banks and how much by each bank. Ingalls modified his resolution by withdrawing the clause requiring the naming of the specific banks.

Frye's resolution regarding the President's reappointment for fishing commission was placed before the Senate, and, without debate, referred to the committee on foreign relations.

HOUSE.—A large number of executive communications were laid before the House by the Speaker, among them a letter from the chief of engineers, asking for an immediate appropriation of $50,000 for the general work of survey on the Mississippi river.

Bragg (Wis.) from the committee on military affairs, reported back a Senate bill making an appropriation for the purchase of the old Produce Exchange building, New York city, for army purposes; to committee of the whole; also, for the relief of Fitz John Porter. House calendar.

After passing a bill for the relief of destitute Sioux Indians on the Rosebud and Pongue rivers, the House, on motion of E. R. Taylor, proceeded to the consideration of the Senate resolution accepting the statue of Pres. Garfield, presented by the state of Ohio. After briefly eulogizing the many high private and public qualities which distinguished the career of the dead President, Mr. Taylor said:

"President Garfield stands among the fathers of the Republic; by the side of the successors and in the presence of some of his contemporary patrons. The martyr President is not far away. In this exalted company Pres. Garfield is not out of place; he came last into it, but he meets there only his peers. Those who are standing to that silent senate of the dead, if in life would recognize the fitness of the association. None more vividly than his old friend, the matchless orator of Gettysburg, the liberator president—the immortal Lincoln. Accept, then, Ohio's gift, the image in enduring marble of one she loves so well, tendered as it is with patriotic aspiration, for the prosperity, the happiness, the continuance of the great American nation, one and inseparable, now and forever."

McKinley (Ohio) addressed himself more particularly to an analysis of Pres. Garfield's abilities, as shown by the course pursued by him during his long congressional career.

Geddes (Ohio) spoke feelingly of his friendship with Garfield, and of the admiration

was to secure political supremacy. What was this to come from? He warned members that the point might be reached when public opinion would revolt against voting away the money of the toiling millions in this sort of way. He asserted that there were numbers of men—he might say thousands—who were receiving pensions who had no more right to them than he had.

Dunn (Ark.) offered an amendment granting pensions to the survivors of the Mexican and Indian wars. The bill was then read by sections for amendment. Warner (Ohio) offered an amendment providing that this act shall apply only to widows who were married before its passage. Canon (Ills.) asked an amendment providing that in considering claims of dependent parents it shall be only necessary to show that they are without means of support except by means of manual labor. Ruled out on a point of order. Townsend (Ill.) offered an amendment as a sub-titute for Warner's amendment providing that when an invalid pensioner shall die his widow or minor children shall be entitled to an original pension without being required to prove that the death of the pensioner was due to his military or naval service. Townsend's amendment was rejected by a vote of 108 to 115, and Warner's by a vote of 105 to 126.

Milliken (Me.) in speaking to a pro forma amendment, advocated the repeal of the limitation clause of the arrears act, and likened gentlemen who, while opposing the repeal, opposed the repeal at this time, to old Judge Stebbins, of Maine, who while in favor of a prohibition law, was opposed to its enforcement.

On motion of Snowden (Pa) an amendment was adopted making it a misdemeanor for any person to receive any money for the prosecution of any claim arising under this act.

Browne (Ind.) offered an amendment repealing the limitation of arrears of pension act. Rogers (Ark.) raised the point that the amendment was not in order, as it contained the substance of a bill pending before the House. A long discussion of the point followed and in order to enable the matter to be looked into still further, the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.

HORSE.—Reed's motion that all further proceedings under the call be dispensed with was carried, and after a short wait the sergeant-at-arms brought to the bar of the House Messrs. Lowden, Riggs and Bingham. After being considerably guyed by their associates, the excuses presented by these gentlemen were deemed satisfactory, and they were released from custody.

At 2:50 Herbert thought he had secured a quorum of Democrats, and accordingly further proceedings under the call were dispensed with. The previous question was then ordered on the resolution—yeas 159, nays 91. Then commenced a political debate which was opened by Boutelle, who premised his direct speech upon the resolution with a remark calling attention to the fact that the first legislative act of the House had been the passage by unanimous consent of a bill removing the political disabilities of an ex-Confederate who had waited more than twenty years before showing a desire to be placed in the line of eligibility to an appointment under the executive department of the United States. In contrast with this he (Boutelle) had been tauntingly informed that fifteen minutes was an ample allowance in which to present the case of outrageous dismissal of disabled soldiers of the Union army from the employment of the government, and the obliteration and removal of inscriptions commemorative of the success of the Union army. A Norfolk paper had stated that Commandant Truxton, in place of censure, was entitled to praise. The paper said that when he had taken charge of the Norfolk navy yard, he had found inscriptions intending to keep alive the bitter memories of civil strife, and had patriotically ordered them to be removed.

Boutelle then referred to the removal of the superintendent of machinery at the navy yard, because of his demurring to the defacement of the dry dock and the appointment in his stead of a man who had little to the recommendation rested on his service in the Confederate army. "If" said Boutelle, "the time had come or should come to obliterate the memories of the rebellion, the monuments of the rebellion itself should be first torn down. Let not the work be begun by the destruction of the beautiful memorials of the victories of the armies of the United States." He had a list of great marble memorials growing up all over this land to perpetuate the cause of treason and rebellion. The soldier who came to Washington might wander throughout the great art repository of the city looking for the counterpart of the statue of the hero who sustained the flag of the Union. He would find that the only men who were remembered in the art gallery were Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. There was no justice in the claim that a proud patriotism required the obliteration of the records of the grandest triumph ever made for humanity since the morning stars sang together. [Applause on the Republican side.] The people of the country ought to say, as old Gen. Dix did in regard to the American flag, "If any man attempts to pull down a memorial of the great triumphs of the loyal people of this country, shoot him on the spot [prolonged cheers on the Republican side] whether his position were that of a member of Congress or a citizen in private life. He entered his protest against this morbid sentimentality, against this false idea of magnanimity which would for one moment tolerate the laying of the hands of desecration on the memorials of the triumphs of the United States army. In the case of the Norfolk navy yard and custom house, gallant, efficient and faithful public servants, who had followed the flag of their country across a hundred battle fields, had been turned out that their places might be given to men who had fought to destroy the government. It was a shame to think that the navy was called upon to report if any tablet had been destroyed at the Norfolk navy yard which commemorated that the dry dock at Portsmouth had been destroyed. He was glad of the opportunity to inform the gentleman from Maine that the dry dock at Portsmouth had never been destroyed. [Applause from the Democratic side.] A gentleman asked the secretary of the navy if inscriptions had been removed from cannon captured from the Confederate army. He would inform the gentleman from Maine that no cannon with such inscriptions had ever been in the Portsmouth navy yard. [Applause on the Democratic side.] The gentleman from Maine wanted to know if a Union soldier had been discharged and a Confederate put in his place. He would inform him that the man who was discharged had never been in the Union army, had never been within a thousand miles of a line of battle, had never heard the music of a minnie bullet. [Applause and laughter on the Democratic side.]

Boutelle—"Did he not render great service to his country?"

"No, sir," replied Wise; "he was in receipt of a large salary, in a bomb proof position, while brave men fought the battles of the country."

Brady (Va.) asked permission to propound a question.

"No sir, no sir," exclaimed Wise, "I will give my attention to you in one minute. The Confederate, or the one whom you (Boutelle) alleged was dismissed on account of his service in the Confederate army was appointed on a competitive examination, and the man to whom you refer was removed for beastly intoxication. [Applause on the Democratic side.] One other fact I commend to your consideration. During the Arthur administration, the postmaster at Evansville, Ind., who was a Union soldier, twice wounded and twice promoted for gallantry, was removed at the dictation of Sen. Mahone. [Applause on the Democratic side.] Ah, Mr. Speaker, it is a good thing to raise a fuss over this, isn't it? Your fellow citizens of Maine and Kentucky are anxious to know if a Confederate has been appointed in the Norfolk navy yard by this administration. Have you forgotten that during the Grant administration and during the administration of Hayes and Arthur you sent the captain of the Confederate guerrillas—John S. Mosby—to represent the government of the United States in a foreign country? [Applause on the Democratic side.] Have you forgotten that Longstreet, a Confederate lieutenant general, was selected by your Republican administration for the most important office in Georgia? Why is it, I will ask the gentleman from Maine, that we have not heard a word from that icebound region about these appointments?" [Laughter on the Democratic side.]

"Does the gentleman desire a reply?" inquired Boutelle.

"No, sir," exclaimed Wise. "Go read the speech of the Senator of the United States who, with all kindness, is in the estimation of the whole country a better man than you are—go read the speech of Charles Sumner, of Massachusetts."

"If Charles Sumner knew that his magnanimous suggestion would be quoted by you for such a purpose, he would turn in his grave," exclaimed Boutelle, amid much confusion.

"Go," continued Wise, "read the speech of Charles Sumner, of Massachusetts. If I mistake not he was the friend in the senate who declared, some fifteen years ago, that the time had come for peace, and that the bitter remembrance of war should be removed. And mark the contrast between the leader of the Federal army and the gentleman from Maine. The last words spoken by that great leader, on his dying bed, at Mt. McGregor were these: He thanked God that he closed his eyes on the world believing that peace had returned to a distracted country. [Applause on the Democratic side.] Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to say one word more to the gentleman from Maine, while we sit here and vote pensions to our soldiers."

"Our soldiers!" exclaimed Boutelle.

"Yes," replied Wise, "our soldiers! We are in the house of our fathers, and we have come to stay. [Applause on the Democratic side.] While we are ready and willing to vote pensions to honorably discharged soldiers who served their country in time of war, we shall never consent that it shall be held and proclaimed on high that one who happened to have been in the Confederate army is forever disbarred from the service of his country. I protest that these honorable soldiers of the Union army shall never again be subjected to the treatment that they were subjected to by the last administration, when men who had fought bravely for the Union, under the circular bearing the name of William Mahone, as chairman, and James D. Brady, the present member of this House, as secretary—"

"There was no such circular," interrupted Brady; "I challenge him to produce the circular."

"When," continued Wise, not heeding the interruption, "they were required, under the whip of a master to give money for partisan purposes; required, like slaves to hold their ballot up, that their bosses' minions might see whether they voted right. Oh, what an attitude in which to place a discharged soldier of the Union! under the whip and lash of a Confederate brigadier!" [Loud and continued applause on the Democratic side and in the galleries.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.

SENATE.—George presented the credentials of E. C. Walthall, elected senator from Mississippi to fill the unexpired term of Sen. Lamar. Walthall was then sworn in by the President *pro tem.* of the Senate.

Hoar, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to provide for the settlement of the debt of the Pacific railroads. Wilson (Ia.) submitted an amendment, which was ordered printed and referred to the judiciary committee, providing that whenever it may be necessary for the protection and security of the interest of the United States in respect of its lien, mortgage or otherwise, on the property of any of the companies affected by the bill, the President may order the secretary of the treasury to clear off prior permanent liens of mortgages by the same, and that the United States may compute the United States may become subrogated to the rights thereto or pertaining to such permanent liens or mortgages.

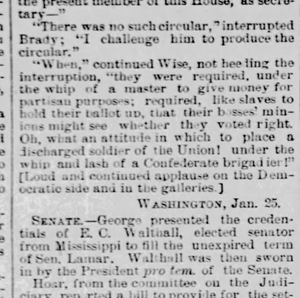
The electoral count bill was brought up and Morgan took the floor. He characterized Sherman's proposed amendment as entirely new. It would usurp, he said, into the hands of Congress a power that was not given to Congress by the constitution, and a power, the exercise of which, under the proposed amendment, would tear down and destroy one of the electoral bodies provided by the constitution. He could not see how the danger to the Union could be decreased by having the 76 Senators voting pell-mell with the 325 members of the House of Representatives.

The Senate went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

A GLISTENING WONDER.

The Palace of Crystal that is the Pride of St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 21.—The city of St. Paul is proud of an ice palace there that will compare with anything of the kind ever attempted. It is being constructed by the architect of structures of the same character at Montreal carnivals. Some idea of the structure may be gained from the accompanying sketch of the completed building, but one must see this huge mass of glistening ice to appreciate it. The building covers a space of ground 150x160 feet. The main tower rises from the center of the pile, and is the striking feature of the design.



THE ST. PAUL ICE PALACE.

The height of this tower will be 120 feet, and its four angles curved into circular turrets, three of which will be one foot in diameter and the fourth eleven feet. From the latter tower—twenty feet above the others—will float the stars and stripes. Attached to the tower are four others, which on the side will be seventeen feet by sixteen and 64 feet high, while on the other side are two towers 23 feet by nineteen and 50 feet high. Two of these are triple towers, connected by castellated curtain walls, and the other two, small ones, by a semi-circular bastion.

There are also several outlying towers, which form the corners of the structure. These are connected by a castellated wall, in a line with the accompanying cut, and that each angle of these walls are circular turrets thirty six feet high and twelve each in diameter. The main entrance is a round tower, flanked by square turrets, and inside will be fashioned a commodious skating rink, to which an initiation fee will be charged, a curling rink being added for the accommodation of devotees of that (to outsiders) spiritless game. This glistening palace of ice will be formally opened M nday, February 1, when it is expected that a large crowd will be present.

State and Tri-State Fairs for 1886.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 20. — Representatives from the Ohio State fair; the Tri State fair, embracing Michigan, Ohio and Indiana; the Michigan State fair; the Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan fair; the Indiana State fair, and the St. Louis fair, met at South Bend, Ind., last Saturday and formed an association to be known as the "Middle States Fair circuit."

The following dates for holding fairs this year were arranged: Ohio State Fair, August 30 to September 3; Tri-State Fair, September 6 to 11; Michigan State Fair, September 13 to 18; Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan Fair, September 20 to 25; Indiana State Fair, September 27 to October 2; St. Louis Fair, October 4 to 9.

R. M. Lockhart, of Waterloo, Ind., was elected president of the association, and J. W. Fleming, of Columbus, O., secretary.

The meeting endorsed the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, and recommended that all fair associations join the organization.

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

Another Question to be Submitted to the United States Supreme Court.

OMAHA, Jan. 26.—The high license liquor law of Nebraska, which has been declared unconstitutional in the state Supreme Court, is to be tested farther as to its constitutionality in the United States Supreme Court, by a St. Louis liquor firm, who two years ago sold a large bill of goods to D. L. McGracken, of Central City. McGracken refused to pay the bill, and interposed in defense, the plea that the St. Louis firm had no license to sell goods in Nebraska, and hence could not legally do business in Nebraska. The high license law provides that an applicant for license must swear that he is of good moral character and a resident of the state. The St. Louis firm could not comply with the requirements, and their attorney maintained that the law was unconstitutional, as it disregarded the clause regarding inter-state commerce. The case was decided in the District court in favor of the defendant, McGucken, and the Supreme court affirmed the decision last summer. The St. Louis firm has now ordered their attorney to appeal the case to the United States Supreme court, the instructions being based on the recent decision of the United States Supreme court in a somewhat similar case in Michigan, in which local taxation of transient salesmen was declared unconstitutional.

The Wool Trade.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—Emigration Commissioner Lynch, a leading wool merchant, has compiled the statistics of the wool trade for 1885. The total amount of wool received at this port last year was 104,668,385 pounds, of which 52,889,710 were of foreign production. The arrivals in 1884 amounted to 81,557,095 pounds; in 1883, 93,681,050; and in 1882, 74,848,950. The increase is principally from foreign ports. The report states that growers have been encouraged by the low prices for fine wools; in the new states, sheep have been slaughtered in great numbers, and the production of the best qualities is considerably reduced. The severity of the winter of 1884-'85, caused the death of nearly 1,000,000 sheep in Texas. The clip of 1885 was 8,000,000 pounds short of that of 1884. The outlook for a material increase the present year does not appear encouraging."

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Fitz John Porter.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Mr. Bragg, from the House committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter. It authorizes the President to appoint Fitz John Porter to the position of colonel in the army, and in his discretion to place him on the retired list as of that grade, provided that Fitz John Porter shall receive no pay, compensation or allowance whatsoever prior to his appointment under this act. The committee adopts the report submitted to the last Congress, but adds that it has carefully considered the objections made to the bill in the veto message of Pres. Arthur, and is clearly of the opinion that they are not well founded, and should not interrupt the course of justice. The report is signed by all the Democratic members of the House.

The "Drummer."

The Supreme court rendered a very important decision in the case of Samuel A. Warming, of Chicago, and against the state of Michigan, in which it decides that a state has no right to tax traveling salesmen or require them to pay a license.

Sen. Teller's Silver Speech.

Mr. Teller addressed the Senate at great length on the silver question. In the course of his remarks he said the secretary of the treasury had told us that the laboring men would first suffer from silver coinage. Let that gentleman speak for the great moneyed corporations and for the bondholders and capitalists, but not for the laboring men. The laboring men were well aware that that great department of our government had passed into the control of the bankers and moneyed powers. They knew that the statutes passed to control the powers of moneyed corporations and capitalists were violated every day in the treasury department. The present disturbed state of the public mind concerning silver Mr. Teller ascribed to the attacks made on it by the government officials. Every scheme that could disgrace silver had had the sanction of that department, if it did not directly originate in the department. The treasurer of the United States had even gone into a convention of bankers—a convention whose object was the depreciation of silver—and his presence among the bankers was carefully telegraphed to all corners of the country. That was a scheme to frighten the people into the idea that silver coinage would bring ruin to our industries, and the treasurer's presence in that convention was the most indefensible attack that had ever been made on the credit of a government by its own officials, sworn to respect and execute the laws of their country.

Another attack on silver was found in the system of bookkeeping newly adopted by the treasury department in treating as a liability and not as an asset the $100,006,000 of revenue held in order to redeem the greenbacks. According to this idea, the more money the government had in its vaults with which to redeem its paper money or pay its debts, the greater its liabilities. The change of bookkeeping came of long experience in Wall street. It was for the purpose of deceiving the people as to the amount of available funds in the treasury, as it would always show $100,000,000 less than was actually in the treasury.

The Boutelle Resolution.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22.—Mr. Herbert, of Alabama, from the House committee on Naval Affairs, reported back the Boutelle resolution calling on the Secretary of the Navy for information relative to the alleged erasures of inscriptions and the dismissal of Union soldiers at the Norfolk navy yard, with an amendment extending the inquiry to dismissals made at the navy yard and light-house district at Norfolk during the terms of the immediate predecessors of the present secretary of the navy.

Mr. Herbert stated that the resolution was substantially the same as that originally offered by Mr. Boutelle, except that it was somewhat broader. He demanded the previous question.

The Republicans resisted this, but on a division were outvoted—87 to 84.

Tellers were ordered. The tody of the Republicans refrained from voting, and upon the result of the vote—111 to 70—Perkins (Kan.) raised the point of order that no quorum had voted.

"It is evident, then," said Herbert, "that gent emen do not want their own interrogations answered. I withdraw the report." [Applause on the Democratic side.]

Mr. Boutelle—If I may do so, I object to the withdrawal of the report.

Reed (Me.)—"The report is being acted upon and cannot be withdrawn."

The Speaker held that as the report was made to the House by order of a committee, it could not be withdrawn without leave of the House. [Applause on the Republican side.]

Reed—"I suggest that the gentleman from Alabama allow amendments to be offered by my colleagues."

Herbert—"I have no instructions to allow any amendments."

Reed—"The gentleman can allow amendments to be offered."

Herbert—"I decline to allow any to be offered. The resolution embodies substantially all the inquiries in the original resolution, and I move a call of the House."

Boutelle inquired whether the gentleman had stated that the committee had instructed him to call the previous question.

Herbert—"I made so such statement."

Boutelle—"He was not so instructed."

Herbert—"I made no such statement."

The Republicans opposed the motion for a call of the House, but it was ordered by a vote of 158 to 123.

The call disclosed the presence of 296 members, there being but 29 absentees, and on motion of Mr. Herbert, a resolution was adopted requiring the sergeant-at-arms to arrest and to bring to the bar of the House such members as were absent without leave, immediately.

Reed moved that all further proceedings under the call be dispensed with. He called attention to the fact that there was an unusually full attendance of members. The sole question which now existed was a question of the liberty of debate. No unreasonable time was asked for by the minority. It could not be that gentlemen on the other side, with a majority of 40, was desirous of suppressing debate from fear of any consequences. No harm ever come in a free country from a free discussion of a legitimate proposition.

Herbert stated that the rules of the House prescribed a reasonable time for debate on a resolution of this character. Thirty minutes were allowed—15 for each side, after the previous question was ordered; it was simply a resolution of inquiry, and there was nothing to debate until the inquiry had been answered.

Bell Telephone.

Solicitor-General Goode has received from the Interior department all the papers bearing on the case of the Bell Telephone company. He says he will consider the matter at once, and probably direct the institution of a suit to test the validity of the Bell patent next week. He has not yet decided where suit shall be brought, but prefers Washington as the most convenient for the purposes of the government. The Attorney-General has declined to take any part in the case, and has placed its entire management in the hands of the Solicitor-General.

Death of Rep. Rankin.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Rep. James Rankin, of Manitowoc, Wis., died in this city yesterday, of Bright's disease of the kidneys. He served in the Union army three years, in the Wisconsin legislature eleven years, was elected to the 48th Congress, and re-elected to the 49th Congress. He had been ill for over a year. At the commencement of the present Congress he came to Washington and was taken from his hotel to the capitol and carried into the House to be sworn. His remains will be taken to Manitowoc for burial on Tuesday morning. The Speaker of the House will appoint a committee of representatives to accompany them.

Eaton's Resignation.

Dorman B. Eaton, civil service commissioner, has sent to the President the following letter, tendering his resignation:

"SIR: I beg very respectfully to tender you my resignation of the office of civil service commissioner, to take effect on the 9th day of March next. My acceptance of the office, as you are well aware, was accompanied with the declaration that I could not consent to hold it longer than my service might be useful in connection with the preparation of the annual report of the commission; the giving of any information which Congress might require, and the new commissioners become familiar with their duties. The political question which seems to have been raised over my nomination, and which did not allow an earlier offer of my resignation, makes it proper for me to say that when you nominated me you well knew the fact that I was still an adherent of the Republican party, as I had been from its origin in every sense, that I was a Republican when appointed a commissioner either by Pres. Grant or Pres. Arthur. And I have the honor of being your obedient servant, DORMAN B. EATON."

Silver Dollars.

The issue of standard silver dollars from the mints during the month ended January 23 was $205,451. The issue for the corresponding period of last year was $120,496. The shipments of fractional silver coin from January 1 amount to $151,409.

Pensions.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The House committee on Pensions added an amendment to the Mexican Pension bill introduced in the House by Mr. Wolford, and directed the report of the bill to the House. As agreed upon in committee the bill authorizes the secretary of the Interior to place on the pension rolls, at the rate of $8 per month, the names of all surviving officers, soldiers and sailors who served in the Mexican war for any period during the years 1845 46-47-48, or their surviving widows. No soldier whose political disabilities have not been removed shall be entitled to the benefits of the act.

The Eight-Hour Law.

The House committee on Labor appointed a sub-committee to draft a bill amending the eight-hour law, so as to provide that eight hours shall constitute a day's work for men employed by contractors on government work. Members of the board or committees say that as a result of the conference between the sub-committee of the committee on Agriculture and Labor, a bill will be reported by the former committee making the commissioner of Agriculture a cabinet officer, and providing that the department shall be known as the department of Agriculture and Labor.

Dakota.

The House committee on Territories heard argument from Messrs. Thompson and Johnson, prominent citizens of Dakota, in favor of the admission of the entire territory of Dakota as a state, and against division. They said the interests of the entire territory were identical, and that the state's resources should be left together. They did not think the northern portion of the state should be cut off. Mr. Johnson said the north and south division was a political scheme, gotten up by Judge Moody to send himself to the Senate. The state, if divided at all, should be divided from east and west, and they claimed such was the sentiment of the people of Dakota, with the exception of Judge Moody and a few others.

Washington Territory.

Sen. Platt reported favorably from the committee on Territories the bill for the admission of Washington territory, and also that portion known as the "Pan Handle" of Idaho.

The Senate Calls for Information.

In executive session, Mr. Edmunds, in behalf of the committee on the judiciary reported a resolution directing the attorney general to furnish to the Senate copies of all papers and documents on file in his department relating to the administration of the office of United States district attorney for the southern district of Alabama. The resolution was agreed to without opposition or debate. It is understood that these papers are desired by the committee in connection with its consideration of the nomination of Jno. D. Burnett, vice George Bisskam, suspended. It is also understood that a request recently made by the attorney general for papers was returned with a statement that the attorney general had not been instructed by the President to furnish them.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Great Britain.

OPENING PARLIAMENT.

LONDON, Jan. 21.—The weather to-day was inauspicious for the re-appearance of the queen in public. It was a dull, heavy day, and the streets were covered with snow and slush. Promptly at 1:30 p. m., the royal party left Buckingham palace for the House of Lords. The route of the royal pageant had been covered with gravel. This prevented the horses from falling, and enabled more rapid progress to be made. Her Majesty rode in an open carriage drawn by eight horses. The Household cavalry acted as the escort to the Queen. Large crowds lined the streets through which the royal procession passed, and her majesty was greeted with hearty cheers all along the route. The scene in the House of Lords was very brilliant.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

LONDON, Jan. 21.—Her majesty, in her speech, said her relations with other powers continue friendly. The differences with Russia regarding the Afghanistan boundary have been satisfactorily adjusted. She trusts that the work of the Russo-English frontier demarcation commission, already far advanced, may tend to secure the continuance of peace in Central Asia. Referring to the rising in Eastern Roumelia, her majesty says her object in the negotiations which followed the outbreak had been to bring the inhabitants of that country, according to their wish, under the Prince of Bulgaria's rule, while maintaining unimpaired the essential rights of the Sultan. The Queen regrets that she had been compelled to declare war against King Theebaw of Burmah, owing to acts of hostility by himself and subjects. The gallantry of the forces under Gen. Prendergast had rapidly overthrown the Burmese forces, and she had decided that the most certain method of ensuring peace was to annex and unite in the permanent incorporation of Burmah with her empire. The negotiations respecting the rights of the French on the coast of New Foundland had been satisfactorily concluded. With Spain, also, an agreement had been reached giving to British subjects the same commercial rights as the Germans in the Caroline Islands.

Parliament would be asked to adopt certain measures rendered necessary in the convention relative to an international copyright, to which the Queen has agreed.

Turning to internal affairs, the queen said: "Gentlemen of the House of Commons—Lords and gentlemen—I regret to say that no material improvement can be noted in the condition of trade or agriculture. I feel the deepest sympathy for the great number of persons in many avocations of life, who are suffering under a pressure which, I trust, will prove transient. I have deeply to sorrow the renewal, since I last addressed you, of the attempt to excite the people of Ireland to hostility against the legislative union between that country and Great Britain. I am resolutely opposed to any disturbance of that fundamental law, and in resisting it I am convinced that I shall be heartily supported by the enlightened opinion of the world and by the social, no less than the material condition of that country, engages my anxious attention. Although there has been during the last year no marked increase of serious crime, there is in many places a concerted resistance to the enforcement of legal obligations, and I regret that the practice of intimidation unfortunately still exists. I have caused every exertion to be used for the detection and punishment of these crimes, and no effort will be spared on the part of my government to protect my Irish subjects in the exercise of their legal rights, and in the enjoyment of individual liberty. If, as my information leads me to apprehend, the existing provisions of the law should prove to be inadequate to cope with these growing evils, I shall look with confidence to your willingness to invest my government with all the necessary powers. Bills will be submitted for transferring to representative councils in the countries of Great Britain local business which is now transacted by the courts of quarter sessions, and other authorities. A measure for the reform of country government in Ireland is also in preparation. These measures will involve the consideration of the present incidence of local burdens. A bill for facilitating the sale of glebe lands in a manner adapted to the wants of the rural population will also be submitted to you; as will also bills for removing the difficulties which prevent the easy and cheap transfer of land; for mitigating the distressed condition of the poorer classes in the western highlands, and the islands of Scotland, for the more effectual prevention of accidents in mines; for extending the powers of the railway commission in respect to the regulation of rates, and for the codification of the criminal law, and that result beneficial to the cause of education may follow from a royal commission which I have appointed to inquire into the working of the education act. The prompt and effective dispatch of the important business which in an ever-growing population, falls to you to transact, will, I doubt not, occupy your attention. In these and in all other matters pertaining to your high functions, I earnestly commend you to the keeping and guidance of Almighty God."

In the House of Lords, the Duke of Abercon moved the address in reply to the speech from the throne. He spoke of the grave responsibilities of those directing the affairs of the government, and said time the good thing over the empire, and that was the state of Ireland. He mentioned a number of duties which the government must perform in relation to that country, among which were the maintenance of the Union, the suppression of persecutions, of which he said, the National League was guilty, and the defense of the loyal Irish minority. He said that no statesman, whatever he might be, would sacrifice the interests of the country.

The Earl of Scarborough seconded the motion of the Duke of Abercorn. Earl Granville congratulated Lord Salisbury, the prime minister, on his possession of two such eloquent supporters.

THE MERSEY TUNNEL.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 20.—The tunnel between Liverpool and Berkenhead, under the Mersey, was formally opened by the Prince of Wales and his two sons, Prince Albert and George. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a heavy fog prevailing and snow falling, there were large crowds present, both at Berkenhead and Liverpool. At the central station, Berkenhead, his royal highness was presented with an address by the inhabitants of that city. The Mersey Tunnel railway company had provided accommodations for a great number of persons within the station, and the entire space was filled with prominent people. All the prominent buildings in Liverpool were handsomely decorated with flags and bunting. A loyal address was also presented to the Prince of Wales by the municipal officials of Liverpool. The royal party entered a special train at Rock Ferry, on joint railways between Chester and Berkenhead, and proceeded through the tunnel, the party meeting with ovations at all points along the line.

HENRY M. STANLEY.

LONDON, Jan. 22.—The Congo railway syndicate has appointed Mr. Henry M. Stanley manager of the work of laying the line of railway in the Congo country.

A HARD WINTER.

EDINBURGH, Jan. 26.—All reports agree that this is the hardest winter Scotland has experienced in twenty years.

The Eastern Question.

MUST DISARM.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 20.—The *Journal de St. Petersburg* says: "The dignity of Europe demands that the powers should redoubie their efforts to compel Greece, Servia and Bulgaria to disarm, so as to prevent calamities, the extent and issue of which no one can foresee."

GREECE WILL FIGHT.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—The Greek Minister, in an interview to-day respecting the warlike news published this morning from Athens, said: "The Greek King, government and people, will fight to the bitter end before they will allow Bulgaria to absorb 100,000 people belonging to the Greek race, which she will certainly do if the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia is recognized. Greece is fully entitled to the whole of Epirus. England is interfering with the rights and liberties of Greece. I am confident that the Greeks can whip the Turks at sea. As to the land defences of Greece, the moment war is declared, Macedonia and Albania will be set in flames, thus cutting off the land communications of the Turks and attacks on seaports."

The Greek government, in reply to the note of the Marquis of Salisbury, says that the representations of England infringe on international and diplomatic observances, and declares that Greece reserves perfect freedom of action. The answer further says that Greece has not declared war, nor has she given cause for England to interfere regarding her attitude. Bulgaria having violated the treaty of Berlin under the ægis of England, Greece is justified in using every means in her power, and even to resort to arms if necessary, to obtain the concessions the treaty of Berlin gave her. Greece will maintain her claim to Thessaly and Epirus, no matter what the cost may be, and is prepared to take the field at the earliest moment, and fight to the bitter end in support of her rights. She is confident of success. The first movement of Turkish troops against Greece will be the signal for revolt in Albania and Macedonia, and Europe will not look placidly on.

GREAT ACTIVITY.

SMYRNA, Jan. 26.—Great activity exists in Turkish military and naval circles. Troops and horses are being hurried off for Salonica.

ATHENS, Jan. 26.—Other diplomatic representatives have presented to the government a note identical with that presented by the British minister. The government has made a reply similar to the reply to the British note. Frequent warlike demonstrations are taking place in this city.

GREECE AND TURKEY.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The Greek minister has been interviewed in reference to the possibility of war between Greece and Turkey. He denied that the government of Greece had any intention of issuing letters of marque in the event of hostilities breaking out. His government, he said, has a sufficient number of vessels to cope with Turkey without resorting to such an extreme measure. Greece has no desire to follow the Alabama experiences of England.

Germany.

KIEL, Jan. 22.—Peter Jepsen, belonging to Petersburg, Menard county, Ill., has been expelled from the country by the German authorities. Mr. Pendleton, U. S. Minister, protested against the expulsion, but his protest was unavailing.

BERLIN, Jan. 25.—A dispatch from Weibeimshafen, one of the principal German naval stations on the North sea, says that the iron-clad Prinz Frederick Karls is being rapidly fitted out for sea. Her destination is Piræus, the port of Athens. The Prinz Frederick Karls carries 16 guns of 10 tons each. She is of 6,000 tons displacement, and 3,450 horse power.

Russia.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—The *Daily Telegraph* has advices stating that the Russian government has dispatched 16,000 more troops to Asia Minor and that 1,000 Russians are crossing the Caspian sea on the way to the Terek country.

Burmah.

MANDALAY, Jan. 20.—A pretended Alompra prince and two of his adherents have been tried, found guilty of rebellion, and shot.

RANGOON, Jan. 22.—Advices from Mandalay state that British troops on Monday last captured Kunnah and secured 36 guns. Thirty rebels were killed. The rebellious princess fled to the interior.

Italy.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—Signor Nogliani, Italian minister of Finance, has announced in the Italian Chamber of Deputies that there is a deficit in the budget of 50,000,000 francs. The deficit is attributed to cholera and expense attending the expedition to Massowah. He stated that there would be a reduction in the land tax, and an increase on the sugar, coffee and spirits, which he said the Chamber would establish an equilibrium.

ROME, Jan. 25.—The *Moniteur d Rome*, the organ of the Vatican, expresses annoyance and disgust at the opposition displayed in the Queen's speech to the sundering of the legislative union between Great Britain and Ireland. The *Moniteur* longs for the time to come when the world will see Protestantism entirely extirpated from Ireland, and Catholicism universally recognized.

Mexico.

CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 25.—It is probable that the government will propose to the United States the holding of a special monetary conference in relation to the legalized depreciation of the Mexican dollar in the United States, as compared with the bland dollar. It begins to be believed here that in England public opinion is against a gold standard, and it is hoped that the United States Congress will not consent to the stoppage of silver coinage.

The government is considering a proposition for the holding of an international exposition here in 1892 to commemorate the four-hundredth anniversary of the landing of Columbus. Many American tourists are here.

THE OHIO SENATE.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 26.—The situation in the Ohio Senate trouble was quiet this morning. Suggestions came from both sides looking to a compromise, but nothing definite nor any mode of procedure has been agreed upon. Neither side is willing to be known as outwardly proposing a compromise, and for this reason the reports of a settlement may not be of any consequence. The Republicans claim to be firm in their position, and that they will agree to nothing except it includes immediate proceeding under the rules they adopted last evening for the disposition of the Hamilton county cases in the Senate. The Democratic Senate is credited with a proposition that a special committee be appointed of equal membership politically for the hearing of the contest cases. The Republicans say they will not entertain this suggestion, even if it should come in regular form.

The Democratic senators met in caucus at 10 a. m, and will likely be in session for several hours.

THE REPUBLICAN SENATE

met at 10, with the lieutenant governor in the chair, all Republican members present, and none of the Democrats. The journal of the day previous was read and declared approved. They will remain in session about one hour, and adjourn to to-morrow morning. There is no excitement, and only a few spectators present.

The Republican Senate adjourned till to-morrow at 10 a. m. The Democratic caucus accomplished nothing except to resolve on a solid front, and that they will go into the Senate chamber at 4 p. m. to-morrow, the time to which they adjourned.

Prohibition in Iowa.

KEOKUK, Jan. 25.—To-day Judge Love, in the United States Circuit court, rendered the saloon case of Hall et al. vs. Muggenstrum and others, from Des Moines county, back to the state courts. The effect of the decision on the Iowa saloon case will be that the state courts will have exclusive jurisdiction, and with the exception of brewers and beer gardens in use for lawful purposes, and built before the prohibition law was passed. The prohibitory law is constitutional.

Pierce's "Pleasant Purgative Pellets,"

Positively Popular; Provoke Praise; Prove Priceless; Peculiarly Prompt; Perceptibly Potent; Producing Permanent Profit; Proclaiming Pimples and Pustules; Promoting Purity and Peace. Purchase Price, Petty. Pharmacists Patronizing Pierce Procure Plenty.

A Lisbon correspondent says that Herr Buttner, the German explorer, recently reported as having died in Bonnyland, west coast of Africa, is alive, and is now on his way home to Germany.

FLORIDA LAND SWINDLES.

How People are Duped by Glowing Circulars Concerning that Country.

The BLADE is constantly receiving letters inquiring about Florida lands. It refers all inquiries to the following:

New York Letter, January 21.

There never was a grosser fraud on the public than this Florida business from beginning to end. It is a deliberate and heartless swindle, pure and simple. All the reports from persons who have seen the "splendid city lots" and the alleged orange groves sold for a song by the soulless speculators constituting the Florida land companies lately flourishing acres in representing them as next to worthless, if not absolutely so. Where the city lots are there never will be a city, and the orange groves are bits of barren land, mostly sand, on which it is doubtful if a full grown orange tree will ever be seen. To inveigle northern workingmen down there with glowing assurances about comfortable homes and an easy way of living, and cheat them out of the few hard-earned dollars they have managed to save up, is a positive crime. The *Herald* is doing a good service just now in showing it up, but this can't help those who have already been swindled. It is useful only in preventing others, to some extent, from falling into the same snare. A New Yorker who returned the other day from the place called "Silver Springs Park," talks of the speculators who have worked off some 3,000 acres there, in decidedly harsh terms. His intention was to invest some money himself, but he wanted to see the place first, and when he did see it he put back for the North just as soon as he could get away. He says nearly all the sales actually made have been made to persons who never saw Silver Springs park except on paper. Those who have seen it as it really is have all been in as great a hurry to get away as he was. Yet this is probably the most promising of all the new cities in Florida. If talk means anything, some of those who have buried their spare money in building lots and orange groves down their would make the firefly if they could only lay hands on the inside managers of the Florida land schemes.

THE FLORIDA LAND CRAZE.

New York Herald editorial, Jan. 22.

We publish this morning another letter from our correspondent in Florida. He was instructed to find out the exact status of affairs and to tell the unvarnished truth, having neither the fear nor the favor of any one in mind. His letters have revealed a huge scheme of misrepresentation and fraud, the object of which is to put money into the pockets of speculators by entrapping the unwary.

Starting from Sanford he travelled one hundred and ten miles to Tampa, on the Gulf coast. On the way he began to count the embryo "cities" which look so alluring on paper, but which in reality are mere stretches of waste land, sometimes surrounded by swamps. When he reached the fortieth metropolis of the imagination he gave up the enumeration of the matter, and meditated upon the monstrous numbug represented. More than forty "cities" in one hundred and ten miles of sandy plain, now ornamented with poor pine and scrub oak, and mostly inhabited by mosquitoes and moccasin snakes, shows that the Florida land operators are speculating in very doubtful property, and that it is about time a little light was thrown on their tricks. When to the poor pine and the snakes we add a few swamps, which generate malaria enough to keep the colonists' teeth chattering